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Estonia Submits Proposals on Military Service to Moscow

18150066

[Editorial Report] Tallinn NOORTE HAAL in Estonian on 14 April 1989 carries on page 1 a 1,500-word interview with Indrek Toome, Chairman of the Estonian SSR Council of Ministers, headlined "April 13—Eight Proposals on the Military Sent to Moscow" by Toomas Sildam. The proposals are directed to Moscow, and addressed to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Council of Ministers, and Defense Minister Dmitry Yazov. They are:

"Draftees from Estonia should for the time being, at least, be given a chance to serve in military units stationed in the territory of the Baltic Military District or, if need be, in units named after the cities of our republic.

The militia unit based in Tallinn should consist of at least 50 to 60 percent Estonians.

The border guard forces based in Estonia should have at least a 30 to 40 percent representation from the republic.

The students should be given a choice between taking military training at the college, or entering military service after graduation.

To provide a labor service alternative within the territory of Estonia to those who cannot bear arms on moral or physical grounds, or because of their religious convictions.

Basic military training needs to be changed radically so that schools will retain their role as providers of education.

Supreme commanders of military forces will have to start cooperating with the government of the republic on issues dealing with stationing new units in Estonia. After all, there is a civilian government in the republic!

The military will have to abide by all legislative measures relating to environmental protection."

When asked about Moscow's expected reaction to these demands, the minister says:

"It is hard to predict. One thing seems certain: the army is no longer under the control of civilian authorities, and such a monopoly cannot be tolerated. The army has to be responsible to both the government and the parliament..."

Commenting on the forthcoming Third Independent Youth Forum in Tartu, the minister says:

"I expect to see some non-conformity typical of the youth, and some very daring, even radical thoughts that, at first glance, may not seem to fit our situation today. Yet, all of this is very much needed because we, the

government, are always looking for opinions and appraisals that can also be used tomorrow."

The article also reviewed the public's outrage, and memos received from different movements within the republic complaining about lawlessness and unchecked violence known to be rampant in the Soviet army. Referring to the public outcry and demonstrations leading to these proposals, the minister says:

"As you can see, the demands of the government in this case coincide with the demands of the people. Actually, these eight points came from the people of Estonia."

Estonian Komsomol CC On Problems of Military Service

18150069

[Editorial Report] Tallinn NOORTE HAAL in Estonian on 15 April 1989 carries on page 1 a three-part, 2,000-word article on adverse conditions in the Soviet armed forces, entitled: "Our Goal Is to Save Our Boys for Estonia." The article introduces two documents released by the Estonian Komsomol Central Committee's expanded staff meeting, the first outlining the problem areas, and the second proposing legislative action to correct them. The article quotes introductory speaker Toivo Sikk, who after reviewing the progress made over the past year in the matter of reducing military power in the academic environment, is quoted as saying: "In spite of it all, a feeling of insecurity, indeed a fear of the military still remains."

The first document headlined "Concerning the Service Situation of Estonian Young Men in the Armed Forces" is a listing of resolutions including:

- 1. A condemnation of criminal behavior among servicemen and of military disregard for justice and for the natural environment;
- 2. An expression of support for the popular demand for service by Republic draftees in locally based military units;
- 3. An expression of support for legislative guarantees in dealing with military matters;
- 4. A proposal to establish the Komsomol as a resource on local conditions and as a liaison between army units and community groups such as parents of draftees;
- 5. A proposal to support the movement for a "weapon-free" Agricultural Institute of Tartu.

Other resolutions listed deal with clarifying army regulations, army collaboration with local administrative agencies, and restitution for environmental damages.

The second document, entitled: "Appeal of the Estonian Komsomol Central Committee's Expanded Staff to the Deputies of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet", demands that a permanent commission for dealing with

military matters be formed at the Republic's forthcoming session of the Supreme Soviet. The objectives of such commission would include:

- 1. having the Republic's organs of power assume control over conditions of all military units located within the Estonian SSR territory;
- 2. preparing a legislative proposal to outline procedures of military recruitment for the Estonian SSR;
- 3. drafting legislation outlining procedures for military and non-military service options within the Estonian SSR;
- 4. preparing a legislative proposal for forming "Territorial Service Units" for the Estonian SSR, to be submitted to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The document further specifies making contact with the USSR Ministry of Defense to obtain educational deferments for high school and college graduates, and to secure the discharge of servicemen inducted since 1986 by 1 September 1989 to allow for college enrollment for the coming year.

The article also quotes General of the Army V. Varennikov's response to the idea of forming territorial service units for the Estonian SSR: "We'll certainly not reject the proposal. It needs to be studied to see how it could be put into practice. It has potential. But to change things overnight so that all the young men from the Baltics can serve within the Baltic military district would be hard."

Estonian Youth Forum Takes Stand Against Military

18150070

[Editorial Report] Tallinn NOORTE HAAL in Estonian on 18 April 1989 carries on page 1 an 1,800-word article by Toomas Sildam headlined "Stalemate" on anti-military demonstrations at the Third Independent Youth Forum called "Disarmament and Demilitarization", held in Tartu on 15 April.

Referring to the Tbilisi incident, the article states: "It is obvious that what happened in Georgia is also one of the reasons why many of the speakers at the youth forum turned pacifist and took a stand against the army as a system." Boycotting the draft, according to the article, became the dividing issue at the forum: "Speaking out in favor of the boycott were primarily those not threatened by the military service."

Others, like Rein Veidemann, reflect a more cautious attitude, saying: "Refusing is the easiest thing to do. A refusal, however, is so forceful that it can always be countered by more force." Referring to unchecked brutality among servicemen, the article quotes Avo Uprus: "What we need is real legislative change toward humanizing the military service and the army as a whole."

Among demands brought up at the forum were: military deferment for students and graduates, local service units for Estonian recruits, and constitutional control over military service. The article concludes: "These demands do not constitute a solution. When dealing with central powers, we need well deliberated positions. Whether we like that today or not."

Estonian Comment on Release of Students

18150084 Tallinn NOORTE HAAL in Estonian
12 July 89 p 1

[Article by Toomas Sildam: "Students Home From the Army!"]

[Text] Yesterday at 1600 hours, the USSR Supreme Soviet at its joint session, finally passed the historic resolution—**all those recruited from colleges during 1987 and 1988 and now serving in the Soviet Armed Forces, Border Guards, Internal or Construction Units, will be released from active duty during August and September.**

This is the result of a proposal from several commissions and committees at the Supreme Soviet. Let's recall that only a few days ago, such a solution was deemed impossible by USSR Minister of Defense Dmitry Yazov. Yesterday, however, the necessity of this resolution was explained by First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Anatoliy Lukyanov, and the draft of the resolution was read out by Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolay Ryzhkov. It was passed almost unanimously, and to several rounds of applause.

Some 175,700 students, wearing their army uniforms today, will be back at their colleges this fall.

The comment from Tiit Kabin, received from Moscow at around 2000 hours was that finally something has been accomplished that the people wanted and were looking forward to.

Transcaucasus Military District Warning Against Civilian Intrusions

18010001 Moscow ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian
19 Jul 89 p 3

[Political Directorate, Transcaucasus MD: "In Order To Prevent Incidents".]

[Text] **Recently the situation in the Republic in connection with emotions on nationality issues has become much more strained. An incident has occurred in which guards were attacked to seize weapons. In Abkhazia there have been incidents of attacks on Rayon Military Commissariates, attempts are being made to penetrate onto the territory of military units and subunits.**

The Commander of the District calls upon all citizens of the Georgian SSR not to make attempts which might be taken by the guards as an attack on the post, or an attempt to penetrate onto a secure area. This might lead to irretrievable results. A complex of urgent measures is

being taken by the commanders of military units to reinforce the security of military facilities, and to increase vigilance in the conduct of service by the guards.

The regulations impose upon a guard the duty of using weapons without warning in the event of a clear attack upon him [the guard] or upon the facility which he is protecting.

In real life it is impossible to foresee everything. This or that citizen can, without hostile intent, find himself near a military facility. In this case the firm guarantee [required] to prevent a tragedy is to fulfill his command unwaveringly.

Remember that when a violator does not stop and attempts to penetrate onto a secure facility (onto the post) or, following that, attempts to run, the guard fires a warning shot in the air. If the violator fails to heed the guard's warning, the latter uses a weapon upon him. Such are the laws, which are interpreted and fulfilled by the guards in only one way.

Remember that near military facilities visible signs, regulating the movement of civilians near the area indicated, are displayed. We ask that the warning signs be observed.

This is an earnest request to the citizens of the Republic to observe calm, tact and restraint in their relations with servicemen fulfilling their duty to secure and defend military facilities, and to give a decisive rebuff to any attempt to push the population into actions which might lead to human losses and call forth a new wave of tension between the army and the population of the Republic.

Scandal over Children's Possession of Military Weapons

18010004

[Editorial Report] Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSIYA publishes in Russian on 10 September 1989 on page 2 an article by correspondent V. Ovcharenko entitled: "When Silence is Not Golden". The article complains that the local militia has found military weapons and ammunition, including whole cartridge belts, grenades, shells, and weapons from the Belorussian Military District turning up in the hands of children. Following a series of explosions, several children in one of the classes from Middle School No. 5 in Brest gave up grenades, fuses and ammunition to a militia officer in what became known as "the Brest Affair".

The author asks after the source of Soviet style weapons, and after the nature of measures taken by the military concerning control over weapons and ammunition. However, "...neither the political nor the military leadership of the Belorussian MD have made any response to the newspaper's publication."

Release of Students Intensifies Social Stratification

18010002 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
25 Sep 89 Second Edition p 8

[Letter by I. Ganapolskiy published in a collection "From the Military Department's Mail" and entitled: "Who Is to Be Reduced".]

[Text] I am not trying to be cute, but I think that you will not publish my letter, since it contradicts official opinion.

A decision has been taken not to draft students into the Armed Forces. But who will be drafted? Workers and peasants? It's true that ours is a government of workers and peasants, so let them defend it! Meanwhile the students are to study and hold meetings.

This decision will even further deepen the stratification of our society. Indeed it is no secret whose children go to the institutes and whose to the PTUs [Professional-technical schools], etc.

And further. The absolutely correct decision on the unilateral reduction of our Armed Forces has also, apparently, gone awry. We are sending our children to learn to defend the motherland, and not to build roads. Reduce the construction battalions and the road [building] units. Then the numbers will be smaller and combat readiness will not be decreased. Then there won't be any more Rusts landing in the center of Moscow.

Sincerely

I. Ganapolskiy, Member of the CPSU since 1943, veteran of war and labor, of the city of Kiev.

New Rubric on Universal Legal Education

18011024 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
26 Sep 89 First Edition p 2

[Articles under the rubric "Universal Legal Education"]

[Text] Universal legal education and respect for the law are absolute requirements for establishing a socialist legal state. This is precisely why, in accordance with a decision of the 19th All-Union party conference, universal legal education is being established in the nation as a general state, general party program embracing all categories of workers and all cadres at the center and locally.

The newspaper is initiating a special rubric today, in whose articles the readers will find legal recommendations for organizing universal legal education in the army and navy, information on new laws and other normative acts on matters of national defense and the life and activities of the troops and naval forces, advice and answers to legal questions.

Where to Begin

Recommendations have been worked out for those organizing the universal legal education in the military unit, on the ship, in the military establishment or organization and at the enterprise.

First of all we need to see to it that the personnel are provided with the necessary legal information. If they do not have the needed documents, they should request them from higher military agencies of command and control or request copies from military legal agencies, local soviet and law enforcement agencies or law VUZs.

Do not forget to subscribe both out of special allocations and with the funds of party and trade union organizations and officers' assemblies to VEDOMOSTI VERKHOVNOGO SOVETA SSSR, SOBRANIYE POSTANOVLENIY PRAVITELSTVA SSSR and similar publications of the Union republics where you are stationed, to the BYULLETEN NORMATIVNYKH AKTOV MINISTERSTV I VEDOMSTV SSSR and other periodicals.

Offices or classrooms and in extreme cases, legal information corners, are designated at headquarters, in officers' and other clubs and in the subunits so that not just the instructors can familiarize themselves with the legal information, but also every serviceman, every military construction worker and every blue-and white-collar worker as well.

By the beginning of the academic year training groups should be formed for students of specific topics of military law, individual assignments should be made for all the students for the year, and the staff of lecturers and group leaders should be specified. All personnel should be familiar with the operating hours of the garrison non-T/O information offices and the schedules of the legal lecture series and for other educational activities.

Finally, we need to establish a commission to give the tests on minimal legal knowledge and make provisions for monitoring the universal legal education.

Col Justice I. Bashkevich

And Only According to the Law: Comments of a Military Procurator

"I order all unit personnel to use only the designated address for their correspondence and to send letters only through the subunit military postmen or the mail boxes located on unit grounds...."

Did the commander who issued this order think about the fact that he was violating the Constitution of the USSR, willfully infringing upon his subordinates' private life and the confidentiality of their correspondence? Or at least how he would actually monitor the implementation of his order?

If he had thought about this, he would no doubt have understood the illegality and the absurdity of his order. Unfortunately, the military procurator had to intervene.

Military procurators contest more than 7,000 illegal orders and other legal acts issued by commanders and chiefs of various ranks each year. And in each of these cases, someone's legal rights and interests were violated. When we ask the chief who issued an illegal order "Why?" we receive the amazingly simplistic answer: "In the interest of our cause."

Even more frequently the arbitrary acts are committed under the pretext of concern for the people's well-being.

The campaign underway against drunkenness has given rise to equally far-fetched bans. Where can the bachelor officer or warrant officer who has worked late or has arrived on TDY in a strange city go to eat? Where can they have a family celebration or simply get their wives out of the kitchen and take the entire family to eat on a day-off? The answer would seem to be clear: to a restaurant or cafe. Nothing of the kind. In some places officers and warrant officers have been forbidden to go to restaurants, cafes and bars under the pretext of combatting drunkenness. Such an order was issued by the chief of one garrison: "...in any attire, at any time of day."

Unfortunately, the illegal acts are committed not just out of arbitrariness or out-and-out capriciousness. Such cases are actually not very frequent. The law is most frequently flouted out of carelessness or ignorance. Inadequate legal training of the officers in general, and commanders and chiefs at various levels specifically, is apparent to the naked eye, as they say. Many of them do not possess even elementary legal knowledge. It is not surprising that the legal training program for officers in effect in the forces is called the legal minimum. To provide at least a minimum of information in the area of the law, to eliminate blatant infractions of the law in the functioning of officials and to develop respect for it—this is the prime task.

Pvt Nikulshin's mother set out on a long trip to see her son. She arrived there and encountered a problem: They would not permit her to see him. She had not come at the right time, they said. Only one hour late in the evening was set aside for visits. She asked them to give her son a leave. That is not permitted, they told her. She would have to wait for his day-off. And there was no one to show the commanders the Internal Service Regulations, which contain in black and white a different procedure for extending leaves and permitting visits.

This is what is surprising. It would not be so bad if such infractions were committed with respect to complex legal subtleties. In this case, however, we are talking about fulfilling the combined-arms regulations and other legal norms pertaining directly to the military service, which are written clearly and precisely. It is apparent that legal nihilism is sprouting up not just because of ignorance of the law but also a disinclination to learn it.

Yes, of course, the chief's order is law for subordinates, as we frequently say. But the order itself must conform absolutely to the law. In the real interests of our cause.

Col Justice L. Smertin

Who Will Teach the Legal Expert?

In accordance with the law passed by the USSR Minister of Defense, a department has been established at the Military Institute which will train officers in the field of "legal advice work" for teaching legal subjects.

Our correspondent interviewed Col Justice A. Zorin, chief of the military legal department at the institute.

[Plotnikov] Up to now the military legal experts have been Military Institute graduates who have come to you directly from the classroom. It is now planned to recruit students from among the officers. Why is this being done?

[Zorin] Those in charge of the department have long said that in order to improve the training of military legal experts, we must begin working with students from among the officers. Why? Because, as experience has shown, our graduates clearly lack experience in life and an in-depth knowledge of the specific features of the military service.

This year we selected 50 officers to be trained as military judges and legal consultants. Next year we shall accept 20 more—to train in the field of "legal consultation" for teaching legal subjects. We feel that this is the first step in the needed direction.

[Plotnikov] Who will staff the department's new section, and what kind of training period has been set?

[Zorin] Only officers who have completed 4-year higher military schools, have served as officers at least 3 years and are no older than 27 years. They will study with us for 3 years.

I anticipate your next question: Is that enough time to train instructors in the legal subjects? It is too little for those who enroll with us, of course. This is understood today at all levels. There is a reason why people are asking why not separate the Military Institute's military legal department and make it a separate military VUZ.

[Plotnikov] Even if that is to happen, it will probably not be soon. What problems concern you today?

[Zorin] It has been planned to build dormitories for 150 families for the student officers. I am afraid they will not be ready before the beginning of the next academic year.

Another thing. We know that our instructors, like all officers, are subject to discharge from the military service upon reaching the so-called age limit of 55 years. Col V. Luneyev, doctor of legal sciences and professor, for example, left us for another institute merely because he had turned 55. Such remarkable methods experts as Cols Justice V. Sharkov and V. Antonov, candidates of legal sciences, are presently preparing to leave for that

same reason. This is a very serious problem for us. A judge must be trained by a good judge, an investigator, one with a great deal of experience. Only then can the know-how of the professionals be properly passed on. In my opinion, we need to take a more flexible approach to the cadres of military law instructors.

Legal Information Column

For Soldier/Internationalists

The benefits established for servicemen who performed their international duty in the Republic of Afghanistan and their families apply in part to servicemen who have performed their international duty in other nations. This includes the combat operations in North Korea in 1952-53 and later in Algeria, Egypt, Vietnam, Angola and other nations, as well as in Afghanistan between 22 April 1978 and 30 November 1979.

Benefits which extend to these servicemen and the members of their families include personal pensions for the disabled, interest-free loans for building housing, the special pension system for wives and children of those who were killed, and others.

Apartments for Sale

A procedure has been established for selling apartments in buildings belonging to the USSR Ministry of Defense to servicemen and other citizens. Apartments in buildings of housing directorates subordinate to rayon billeting services, for example, will be sold by those housing directorates. Decisions on the matter are made by the commanders of districts and fleets based on recommendations from billeting agencies and coordinated with the garrison billeting commissions and garrison chiefs.

Special commissions are being established to determine the value and the selling price of apartments at garrisons (in units). Apartments sold in low-rise buildings include the right to a plot of land.

In Case of Fire

A procedure has been defined by which fire-fighting subunits of the USSR Ministry of Defense and the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs interact.

In case of fire all subunits operate on the basis of plans coordinated in advance by the chiefs of the military garrisons and the garrison firefighting service. In such cases the commanders of the military units ensure unhampered entry onto unit grounds by firefighting subunits.

In addition, special military teams may be enlisted for extinguishing fires outside of the military post. Military units are enlisted for this purpose not at the instructions of the district commanders but, in emergency situations, by decision of the garrison chiefs.

Declassified

More than 200 secret and top secret orders issued by the USSR People's Commissariat of Defense between 11 January 1937 and 20 June 1941 have been declassified. For example, these documents have been made available to researchers and a broad range of readers: documents pertaining to the nation's partitioning into

air defense zones, areas and posts, the transfer of naval aviation from the jurisdiction of the chief of naval forces to that of the chief of air forces and the establishment of the positions of company commissars and political instructors in the forces, and order No. 072 of 1937, which declared M. Tukhachevskiy, Ya. Gama-rnik, I. Yakir and other military chiefs to be "enemies of the people."

Shortcomings Among New Draftees Discussed

18310036b Baku AZARBAYJAN MUALLIMI in Azeri
14 Jul 89 p 2

[Interview with Major General Abulfaz Gasymov, AzSSR Military Commissar: "Service To The Fatherland Is Sacred"]

[Text] The regular draft into the USSR Armed Forces is continuing. In connection with this one of our reporters met with Major General Abulfaz Gasymov, AzSSR Military Commissar, and asked him to answer some questions of interest to our readers.

[Correspondent] One of the questions which interest our readers concerns innovations in this year's draft. What would you say about this?

[Gasymov] Perestroyka has had an effect on military work, as it has in all sectors of our life. In this sector there are a number of innovations.

Primarily, I would say that students studying in higher schools will be able to study without interruption. They will be called into military service after they graduate. Youths studying in higher schools with military departments will be freed from military service. This innovation demands that we teach our youth more responsibly in the spirit of faithfulness to the Fatherland, the party and the people. Our republic's party, soviet, Komsomol and trade union organizations, DOSAAF and the entire society are helping us considerably in fulfilling this honorable duty in a worthy manner. The military commissariats preserve a close relationship with educational institutions: they are approaching the teaching of the youth who are continuing the path of their fathers in the spirit of revolutionary, wartime and labor traditions responsibly; they are helping in the establishment of 'battlefield honor' museums in the schools, holding talks on the subject 'No one will ever forget' and building monuments which eternalize the memory of the Soviet people and their countrymen who died heroically during the Great Fatherland war. In this context, the work done in Baku's Nasimi, Oktyabr and Azizbeyov Rayons, and in Gazakh, Shamkhor and Yevlakh Rayons as well as the city of Kirovabad is worthy of note.

During the draft period the Yevlakh Rayon military commissariat holds a three-day annual seminar for youth, makes recommendations to them connected with service in the USSR Armed Forces, acquaints the youth with innovations in the area of military technology and introduces them to many war and labor veterans. Commissariat representatives regularly participate in the elementary military education courses taught in the rayon's schools and they hold a three-month course in rural schools so that youth can perfect their studies of Russian. Experience shows that youth coming into the draft from a commissariat which has approached its work responsibly are ready, and letters and telegrams filled with praise from the military units in which they serve testify to this.

Another of this year's innovations is that uniforms are issued to a large component of youth called to service at the republic Assembly Point. In the future, all draftees will arrive at their military units in uniform.

[Correspondent] Military service for the young draftees begins at the republic Assembly Point. In recent years draftees suffered considerably, and this caused great dissatisfaction. What is the situation now?

[Gasymov] If you were to pass by the republic Assembly Point now, you would see a completely different picture. A five-story dormitory, construction of which had been stalled for years, has been turned over for use. Six hundred people can live in this building. No rent is charged draftees who stay in the dormitory. Recreational facilities have also been planned for the draftees: now, a movie theater seating 700, a special building for the medical commission, a restaurant, teahouse, sports facilities, stores, a park and other facilities are at their disposal.

[Correspondent] Serving the fatherland is sacred. It is a school of bravery, valor and courage. Would you say a few words about ceremonies to mark the beginning of military service and plans to make it memorable?

[Gasymov] As noted at the February [1988] plenum of the CPSU CC, Soviet youth are growing up in a multinational country. They are growing up in a world which is closely connected with interests common to mankind, and which is contradictory at the same time. Under such circumstances two inseparable duties stand before us: the duty to train both a patriot and an internationalist. The two concepts must complement each other. There can be no internationalist who is not a patriot. Internationalistic education is closely bound to patriotic education. In this context the work of the general education and higher schools of our republic is worthy of note.

Measures implemented by the commissariat are also noteworthy. Now every draftee is sent off to military service with the support of Azerbaijan's workers. They know well that it is the sacred obligation of every Soviet man to protect the Fatherland like the apple of his eye. This is confirmed in our USSR Constitution. We hold ceremonies for draftees on the day they are called to military service. At this the names of heroes of the Soviet Union are raised. Labor and war veterans, internationalist soldiers and the parents of those called to service give speeches. Blessings are given those who guard the Fatherland, and they take a sacred oath to serve faithfully. Prominent athletes, artists, poets and writers speak before them.

The republic military commissariat deems the selection of youth for the USSR Armed Forces to be of great importance, maintains a close relationship with the units in which they serve, and receives letters and telegrams on their good service. Our officers and republic Komsomol workers meet regularly with our co-nationals in the military units, and take an interest in how their service is progressing and how they spend their free time. They

also maintain a close relationship with our graduates being trained in the country's higher military schools. Every year 500-600 youth are sent to higher military schools. At this point I wish to mention the work of the J. Nakhchivanski Republic Special Boarding School. For 15 years this school has been preparing national officer cadres for our higher schools.

[Correspondent] It would be appropriate to talk about problems, about shortcomings in the preparation for military service of draftees.

[Gasymov] Information from military units and our own studies show that the elementary military training of youth is not at the level of the demands of the day. We have determined that our draftees, especially our youth educated at rural schools, confront significant difficulties in military units and military higher schools due to the fact that they do not know Russian well. In rural schools labor, physical education, Russian language and elementary military education are still viewed as second or third priority courses. Unfortunately, we are not only dissatisfied about mountain and remote rayons. We come across draftees from a number of rayons of Baku, especially Lenin and Garadagh, who are unable to perform simple physical exercises and who have a poor knowledge of Russian. While it is odd, the majority of them have met the general norms of the 'I am prepared for labor and the defense of the USSR' program and received high marks in Russian.

In order to eliminate shortcomings we must strengthen our material base and improve the quality of teaching elementary military education courses.

Our army is an army of peace. Essentially, it is a people's army. More than a hundred nationalities live in our country. Our youths have to know that we are all members of one family. We must support friendship and brotherhood in interethnic relations and approach every people, nationality and its customs with respect. When our youths enter the ranks of the USSR Armed Forces we recommend to them that they achieve friendship in deeds, not words. As stated at the 19th All-Union party conference, we must teach youths to be selfless in the struggle to achieve our ideals. In this work the teachers must take the responsibility on themselves because the communist education of the younger generation has been entrusted to them.

[Correspondent] Thank you for your interesting talk.

Veteran Aktiv Meets with Defense Ministry on Reserve Officers

18011018 Moscow VETERAN in Russian
No 38, 18-24 Sep 89 p 3

[Unattributed article: "Defending the Interests of Reserve Officers"]

[Text] A meeting of the Soviet activists with representatives of the USSR Ministry of Defense, Soviet Army and

Navy Main Political Directorate, USSR State Committee on Labor and Social Issues, and other interested departments took place at the All-Union Soviet of Veterans of War and Labor at which they reviewed the issue of radically improving the work of veterans soviets with USSR Armed Forces veterans.

The extremely dissatisfactory degree of social protection of Armed Forces veterans was noted at the meeting. Violations of very important socio-economic rights and freedoms of servicemen and members of their families who have been discharged into the reserve have acquired a massive nature. These violations are being particularly painfully perceived during Armed Forces reductions.

We need to improve work with Army and Navy veterans at the center and locally and show more attention and concern for them. The meeting's participants emphasized that it is important to attain an increase in their degree of social protection within the legal system and to create an atmosphere of respectful and concerned relations in society toward Armed Forces veterans. Veterans soviets are called upon to help them in obtaining housing, in job placement, and in decisively coming out against a heartless, formal attitude toward realization of the rights of reserve officers, and to actively involve them in socio-political activity and work in veterans organizations, in particular, in education pre-conscription [age] youth.

The issue of the structure of the veterans organization was actively discussed in connection with the fact that in some places Army and Navy veterans social organizations are springing up and an organizational group for creating a Union of USSR Armed Forces veterans has appeared in Moscow. The speakers discussed the fact that the All-Union Organizations of Veterans of War and Labor, and this is written in its Charter, is a social organization which draws in all veterans of war, labor, and the Armed Forces and therefore it is not advisable to establish a Union of USSR Armed Forces veterans separate from it. It is impossible to alienate, disunite, or divide the veterans movement. It must be united. And committees and groups within committees, including in the All-Union Soviet, can be established under territorial soviets to resolve specific Armed Forces veterans problems.

A.I. Golyakov, first deputy chairman of the All-Union Soviet of Veterans of War and Labor, Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee on Veterans and Invalids Affairs, General of the Army Ye.F. Ivanovskiy, deputy chairman of the All-Union Veterans Soviet, General of the Army A.V. Betekhtin, first deputy commander-in-chief of the Ground Forces, Colonel General (retired) G.V. Sredin, deputy chairman of the Soviet Committee of Veterans of War, Major General N.M. Bay, deputy chief of the Central Financial Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Defense, D.I. Karabanov, deputy chairman of the All-Russian Veterans Soviet, S.I. Romashkin, chief expert of the directorate of labor

resources and personnel training of USSR Goskomtrud. Colonel (retired) V.T. Yevdokimov, member of the organizational group for establishing a Union of USSR Armed Forces Veterans, and Reserve Colonel V.V. Sereda, chairman of the Sumy "Veteran of the Armed Forces" social organization, and others spoke at the meeting.

Recognition, Benefits For Veterans of Military Assistance Groups

90UM0038A Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
12 Oct 89 p 2

[Interview with Lieutenant-General Anatoliy Dmitriyevich Sidorov: "For Those Who Fought: Pressing Interview". (The first paragraph is an editorial introduction.)]

[Text] In the postwar period, Soviet soldiers have provided assistance to the peoples of Korea, Vietnam, Egypt, Syria, and other countries in repelling foreign aggression. A series of articles in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA raised the question of acknowledging the participants of combat operations [deystviy] abroad as soldier-internationalists. On 17 May of this year, a decree was adopted that called for the awarding of a Soldier-Internationalist's Certificate of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and a corresponding medal, to those who fulfilled combat missions abroad. And on 30 June of this year, by decree of the USSR Council of Ministers, the basic benefits established for the "Afghan" soldiers were also applied to servicemen who fulfill their international duty in other countries.

Responding to many requests from readers, our correspondent asked the Chief of the Main Cadres Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Defense, Lieutenant-General Anatoliy Dmitriyevich Sidorov, to comment on the decree of the USSR Council of Ministers.

[Sidorov] Soldier-internationalists must encounter great hardships in the host country, and often even risk their lives. Many of them have been given state commendations for bravery and valor demonstrated in the performance of their military duty abroad. Allowing for the specifics of service of soldiers in countries conducting combat operations [deystviy], the USSR Council of Ministers and the Defense Minister have instituted a number of benefits and privileges for them and for members of their families. Specifically, service abroad counted extra in calculating length of service, pensions were allocated for wives when they reached age 50 (instead of 55) in the event of the loss of a breadwinner, and for children until they graduated from intermediate school or a higher educational institution, and others.

Initially, benefits also applied to service members of the limited contingent of Soviet forces in the Republic of Afghanistan. A subsequent decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers dated 17 January 1983 considerably expanded them. However they applied only to servicemen who took part in combat

operations [deystviy] after December 1, 1979. The decree of the USSR Council of Ministers of 30 June of this year was needed in order to correct this injustice.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] Anatoliy Dmitriyevich, please describe the nature of the benefits.

[Sidorov] The benefits applied to the soldier-internationalists include: first call on housing space, and for the disabled, priority allocation of housing; the use of their regular leave at a time convenient to them, as well as the receipt of an additional leave without pay for up to two weeks a year; priority right to travel vouchers through their work place for sanatoriums, dispensaries, and rest homes, as well as admittance to horticultural associations (cooperatives); interest-free loans for home construction; relief of the payment of income tax for disabled veterans; establishment of republic or local personal pensions for the disabled; compensation for time spent in technical and vocational training to learn a new profession, for retraining, and skill enhancement training... In short, the basic benefits that are enjoyed by "Afghan" troops [FBIS: Soviet personnel who served in Afghanistan] have been applied.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] And to whom do they apply?

[Sidorov] Those servicemen who took part in combat operations [deystviy] in the host countries, during periods when combat operations [deystviy] were conducted there, will receive the right to benefits. These include actions in North Korea in 1950-1953, and later in Egypt (from 18 October 1962 to 31 March 1963; from 1 October 1969 to 16 July 1972; from 5 October 1973 to 31 March 1974), in Vietnam (from 1 July 1965 to 31 December 1974), in Syria (from 5 to 13 June 1967, and 6-24 October 1972), in Angola (from November 1975 to November 1979), in Ethiopia (from 9 December 1977 to 30 November 1979) and in other countries. And also in Afghanistan from 22 April 1978 to 30 November 1979.

Certificates [attesting to] their right to benefits, and when justified, coupon sheets for train tickets at a 50 percent discount, are being granted to these servicemen, and the established benefits are being provided to them and their families, on the basis of documents stating that they served in countries where combat operations were conducted, and that they participated in these actions.

With regard to questions about benefits and the awarding of the certificate of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the medal, servicemen should go to the unit commander where they serve, and persons discharged to the reserve or retired, to the regional (municipal) military commissariat where they live.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] And what if this situation arises, for instance: a former soldier-internationalist goes to his military commissariat requesting that he be put on the benefits list, and they refuse him. What should he do in this case?

[Sidorov] If the military commissariat has no documents confirming the applicant's participation in combat operations, the military commissariat should direct an inquiry to the Main Staff of the corresponding branch of the Armed Forces, a Main or Central Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Defense, with respect to servicemen, or to the General Staff with respect to military advisers, specialists, interpreters, and personnel of support and service subunits.

In controversial questions, documents should be filled out and sent for resolution by a commission of the USSR Defense Ministry.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] Anatoliy Dmitriyevich, one last question. Some soldiers died in the performance of

their international duty. Has concern been shown for their family members?

[Sidorov] Yes, specific benefits have been provided for the families of soldier-internationalists who either were killed or died from a wound, concussion, injury, or illness acquired during service. Specifically, the allocation of pensions, in the event of the loss of a breadwinner, to parents incapable of working, and to wives regardless of whether they were dependent on the service member; also to wives regardless of the time since the death of the service member, until the onset of old age or disability, and the provision of housing space within two years to those without housing or requiring improvement in housing conditions, and a number of other benefits.

Visit to Restricted Tank Test Facility Described

90A40006A Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA
INDUSTRIYA in Russian 10 Sep 89 pp 1, 4

[Article by I. Yermakov: "Ready to Take It On... Report From a Secret Facility"]

[Text] Some 15 years ago many of the world's newspapers carried a photograph of a foreign tank covered by the newest protection—numerous little boxes—on top of the usual protective armor. A projectile, as it hit them, lost its explosive impact.

The news that the same defense had also been created in the Soviet Union appeared only 6 months later. At instantly the news was of critical concern. It was an inconceivably short time for the solution of the secret. How did the Russians manage it?

Today, perhaps, the time has come to provide an answer. And in general, to discuss what the specialists are thinking concerning present and future tank engineering.

I traveled to the scientific center of the Ministry of Defense's Main Armored Directorate for this reason.

On the training grounds and in the laboratories of the center, where any situation can be simulated, even combat operations, the newest models of armored equipment undergo tests and receive (or do not receive) approval for production. Here lies the dividing line between Army and industry in our own military-industrial complex.

...An all-terrain vehicle rolled leisurely down the wide, empty streets. One after another the automatic gates of the numerous KPP's [checkpoints] closed behind us. The center's location is a military secret.

True, a prominent commander invited here recently from a friendly country hinted diplomatically that he has known what kind of "facility" is here since... 1939. Is it worth it, he said, to be so secretive?

The strict security frustrates efforts to inspire in young people respect for the defenders of the homeland and interest in military service.

"The mass media," says V. Shulga, political worker at the center, "have a lot of influence on public opinion. But the majority of what is published about us amounts to the same thing: 'Our armor is strong and our tanks are fast.' Of course, how can you give the matter any substance when you cannot even deal with it—because it is secret? And our posters do not inspire confidence, and the journalists write, 'It sat there, it ran, it came, it went...' What can you compare it with, past and present, when it is kept at such a distance today?"

But here at the center I was fortunate enough to come in contact with armor that has been touched by the winds of time.

The world's first tank as it is conceived today was built in 1915 by the Russian engineer A. Porokhovshchikov. But Russia did not have her own tanks in World War I. And the Red Army used captured tanks in the Civil War.

The year 1929 was a turning point. The Politburo of the Central Committee adopted the resolution "On the State of USSR Defense." Design offices were established at several factories and cadres of specialists were formed.

Two years later this center began testing tanks made in the USSR. At that time it was called the Scientific Test Range of the Red Army's Motorization and Mechanization Directorate.

T-27, T-26, BT-2... Do you remember the servicemen in a once-popular film who jumped a tank across a downed bridge? That was a BT-2, a fast-moving tank. They filmed that episode, by the way, at this same test range... The predominant tanks at the beginning of the war were the T-26 and the BT-5. Their armor only protected the crew from bullets... And only later did the T-34's begin to stream to the front, winning general recognition as World War II's best tank.

German specialists, convinced of the superiority of the "thirty-four," attempted to copy it. They were unsuccessful.

"Much of the reason was that they never found out the secret for producing the sturdy 'tough' armor plating," believes S. Kuts, associate at the center and veteran of the armored troops.

And it was simple. The armor plating gained strength as a result of special tempering.

But the achievements of the German engineers in this area were no less formidable. The "Panthers" and "Tigers" and the self-propelled guns "Hornet" and "Jagdpanther" were mountains of steel. Goebbels' "superweapon" was the "Maus" tank, which defended Berlin. They transported this 180-ton "little mouse" here on several rail flatcars. The self-propelled gun "Thor" that fired on Sevastopol and Leningrad was the size of a two-story house...

The Research and Test Range of the Main Armored Directorate also made its contribution to the defeat of the Nazi mailed fist. Captured equipment was brought here...

This work was not halted even after the end of World War II. I can see this by the British "Centurion," the Israeli "Ben-Gurion," and the American "Walker Bulldog" standing in the armored vehicle collection...

Standing in the pavilion there is also a British M48A5 equipped with an Israeli-designed protection against artillery projectiles. It is that same tank whose photograph aided Soviet scientists, as those in the West believe, to unravel the operating principle of the new artillery protection. In reality it all happened very differently.

Professor V. Bryzgov, winner of the State Prize and doctor of technical sciences, relates:

"When the famous photograph appeared we already had our own technology of protection. Afterwards, when we had studied that tank, we were finally convinced of the accuracy of our own efforts..."

According to Viktor Nikolayevich, there is nothing surprising in that. Armored equipment is being improved constantly. There is a never-ending rivalry between offensive weapons and protection, and as the power of the artillery has grown so has the strength of the armor—and, consequently, its weight. So they have begun to search for new ways.

"The modern tank is a finely tuned system, a complex structure. The equipment in some of the center's laboratories is not inferior to the equipment they use in space. It takes a developed, diversified economy to produce armored vehicles. And, comparing our secret accounts with those published by the NATO countries,"—Bryzgov was obviously a sharp-witted speaker—"I would not take the position that the Soviet equipment is worse."

"And the outlook on armored vehicle weapons? If, of course, it is not a military secret."

"The Americans believe that it is useless to keep these things secret. And so they do not. I agree with them. Everyone is following the same lines of development. It is simply impossible to come up with something different. Everyone says that the tank of the future will be an unmanned tank. It will be directed by a self-programming artificial intelligence. Perhaps time will pass and a new term will appear—the unmanned war. Although man is recognizing more and more clearly the need to eliminate war altogether. The initiative in the search for resolutions to controversial issues is implicitly passing over to the politicians."

It might seem astonishing, but the center's specialists do not see any reason to fear even complete disarmament. The conversion of the defense industry has not taken them by surprise. There is enough work. Here they are ready to take on testing of any sort of equipment with caterpillar tracks. Even space equipment. Or, let us say, to conclude a treaty for the joint creation of a tracked vehicle to put out forest and steppe fires... But that is all theory. And the reality, for the time being, is impossible without the solution of some more important issues. Once again, there is always that same notorious secrecy...

Call for 'Gradual Reduction' of Air Force

90UM0058 Moscow *KOMMUNIST*
VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian
No 16, Aug 89 (Signed to press 7 Aug 89) pp 13-15

[Article by Colonel (Ret.) V. Uryuzhnikov, candidate of military sciences, docent: "Do Not Make the Mistakes of the Past"]

[Text] I dedicated my entire life to service in the armed forces. I completed a special VVS [Air Force] school, and afterwards I was in the ranks for 42 years. I flew fighters for 30 years and commanded an air regiment. The last years were in teaching in the Air Academy imeni Yu.A. Gagarin. I defended my candidate dissertation and received the academic title of docent. After retiring, I continued to work in the academy as a senior researcher. I am introducing myself briefly so that readers would be persuaded: Obviously, I have a moral right to render my judgments on a very important question. First of all about the fact that a scientifically based program is needed for the gradual reduction in the armed forces, particularly in aviation, in order not to repeat the mistakes of the past. Look at the way it was.

The reduction of air units in the 1960's occurred without considering the level of their combat readiness. Regiments were disbanded that had glorious combat traditions. These regiments had a large number of first class military pilots and other specialists, cohesive air sub-units, military collectives with personnel of a high moral-political and psychological level, and vigorous command and control organs.

Thus, at one of the airfields of the Polar region [Zapolyarye], a guards regiment was disbanded which was commanded during the war by Twice Hero of the Soviet Union B. Safonov, but a neighboring regiment which was in existence for only 2 years was not touched. Why? Because it was outfitted with a new aviation system. The skills of the flight-technical personnel and the overall level of combat readiness of the guards regiment was significantly higher than that of the neighboring regiment. In the logic of things, mastery of the new aviation equipment should have been entrusted to the guardsmen. But no, a majority of the high class pilots and specialists were discharged into the reserve. And the new interceptor was taken over by specialists with little experience, which led to a delay in retraining and to a high accident rate. Was this really done in a wise way and did it respond to the support of a high level of air combat readiness in a period of armed forces reductions? Because the further experience of those years showed that to strengthen the VVS it was necessary to recall those first-class pilots who were discharged into the reserve. Many of them in those days had acquired civilian professions and had set themselves up well in an everyday living sense. And here again there was a break in destinies, and it was necessary to start all over, almost from the beginning. Their contemporaries who remained

on active duty had already moved up the ranks, but they themselves had practically no prospects.

One should not take an indiscriminate approach to the discharge of officers to the reserve, guided only by age qualification, as the saying goes, "treating all alike." It is necessary that the decisions of the personnel workers are under the continuous control of commands and political organs at all levels, so that all instruction directives on the reduction of the armed forces and discharge of officers are fulfilled with intelligence, and without any kinds of extremes. Because the longer an officer's length of service, the more proficient he is as a specialist, and the better he knows his work. If such an officer is discharged, then he has to be replaced by a less prepared officer, and considerable means have to be expended in order to bring him to the level of his predecessor. Would it not be better from an economic standpoint and for high combat readiness to save the highly qualified personnel, to encourage them, to provide material incentives in their service in the armed forces as long as possible and so long as health permits? Moreover, even if there is no prospect for service advancement for many of them.

This conclusion of mine concerns flight personnel first and foremost. The training of a pilot costs the state more than any other military specialist. Thus, the cost of training a military pilot 1st class is more than R1 million. He reaches his highest proficiency, on the average, at 30 years of age. At the same time, the average age of taking a pilot off flight duty is somewhere around 35-36 years. Thus, you can compare the return on capital investment in the training of a military pilot. This return is obviously not in our favor. This means that our state must be concerned with increasing the years of flying of the "most expensive" military personnel.

It seems that commanders have to be more attentive in penalizing pilots for preconditions that lead to flight accidents. A wise proverb should be remembered: Forewarned is forearmed. Very likely even the doctors will have to approach each pilot individually in recertification at the medical flight commission, taking into account his desire to fly and his professional experience. It would not be bad to establish flight personnel rehabilitation centers, as was done by the GVF [Civil airline Aeroflot], and which has been practiced for a long time abroad.

And this question. I know from personal experience that senior officers come to teaching positions from line units, as a rule, at the age of 40 years or more. By 45 years of age, they barely become real pedagogues and, possible, will be able to defend a candidate's dissertation. But by 50 years of age, in the prime of creative ability, they are discharged into the reserve. Is this really doing things in a wise way? As a rule, officers discharged at such an age find a teaching position in civilian VUZes [higher educational institutions], they continue to work fruitfully, and in a majority of cases they enjoy prestige. At one time, speaking in our academy, one of the deputy

chairmen of the State Committee for National Education said something about like this: "We are grateful to the Minister of Defense for personnel like this, they perform their duty well." It is probably worth thinking about these words. Doesn't the army squander its personnel lavishly?

And one more lesson which, in my view, has to be drawn from the past experience of armed forces reductions—it is the need for a differentiated and, I would say, a more cautious approach to the destruction of aviation equipment (and also the combat equipment of other services of the USSR Armed Forces). What happened in the 1960's? The combat aircraft of disbanded regiments, regardless of their production year, modification, and remaining service life, were dragged "all together" into a ravine, were crushed by the caterpillar tracks of a tractor and were generally transformed into expensive metal that rusted for years, and which was not recycled. There was also this paradox: The remaining regiments flew in obsolete modifications that had gone through their service life. But at a neighboring airfield aircraft that just came out of the plant were being scrapped. I will cite a specific example. An independent target-towing squadron of IL-28 aircraft, which were coming to the end of their days, was attached to our regiment. In that large unit [soyedineniye], a regiment was being disbanded which was equipped with the latest modifications of the IL-28. Imagine, no efforts of our command to replace the old aircraft with the new aircraft were successful. All of the ILs of the disbanded regiment went under the caterpillar tracks of tractors, and our squadron "suffered" while operating the obsolete aircraft. Was this done in a wise way? On the other hand, those aircraft that were being destroyed were being bought by other countries. And, it seems that the obtained additional hard currency would not have been superfluous in our state budget.

Several words also on the question of the tactics of developing aircraft armaments. Priority at that time was given to missile weapons. Air intercept missile systems began to enter air units. They began to stop putting cannons on aircraft, especially on fighters. In this connection, the stress was on the intercept and destruction of an air enemy by long-range and medium-range missiles. The training of pilots in close air maneuver combat was stopped. Such exercises were removed from the course of combat training. What did this lop-sided arrangement lead to? The well-known Israeli-Egyptian military conflict disclosed the unsoundness of the concept of arming the VVS only with long-range and short-range missiles. Maneuver battle broke out in the skies of Egypt in which cannon weapons were used along with close combat missiles. This is why I would like to focus attention on the fact that at the present time supporters for the elimination of close maneuver air battle from the arsenal of tactical methods of pilots are appearing once again. There is a need for a serious study of VVS tactics at the present stage.

In conclusion, I would like to say that we must not sink into the euphoria of kindness and complacency in

connection with the easing in the international atmosphere and the possibility of the approach of peace on earth without armed forces and weapons. If this will happen, it will be in the distant future. But the present shows that the process of disarmament will be difficult and long.

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Effects of Logistics, Retirements on Air Defense Subunits

18011016 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
21 Sep 89 First Edition p 2

[Article by Lt Col V. Astafev: "Topic of the Day: Which Personnel Will Remain?"]

[Text] Life at this surface-to-air missile [SAM] unit, as incidentally in other PVO [Air Defense] units, is substantially different than life in motorized rifle or tank regiments. I am thinking about the fact that subunits of units are not located in one city. Battalions and smaller subunits are dispersed over large territory dozens of kilometers from headquarters. They are a unique type of small independent garrisons where each person is in the public eye and, more importantly, everyone counts. There are no special support services. The battalion solves all problems whether combat alert, life style, or construction-related through its own efforts.

I recently had the opportunity to visit a battalion where Major I. Verstak, headquarters chief of staff, remained in place of the commander who was on leave. The battalion is located approximately 20 kilometers from the unit headquarters. The problems here are the same as at the more remote subunits. The most "urgent" problem is the availability of people. It seems there are fewer on the staff, four soldiers and one officer, than there should be and it is a sort of nonsense. But for the battalion, this is a "significant portion of the staff." It just takes someone going on leave or performing temporary duty and the work load sharply increases for the remaining personnel.

"It would be nice to have two more officers to stand combat alert," Major Verstak decided to point out, "and although it should be that way, throughout my entire service I cannot recall that the combat crews have ever been manned like they ought to. And we are also really in dire need of people, especially officers, for other purposes: organization of combat training, for carrying out various introductory [training], servicing equipment, and equipping sites. Furthermore, we need to transport food, laundry, coal, fuel and lubricating materials, and take children to kindergarten and school and bring them back..."

Yes, the shortage of people is very keenly felt here. The situation is being worsened by reductions in the Army and by early release of former students. This appears to be a minor detail: Former students Sergeant O. Isayev and Junior Sergeant A. Akhmedzhanov were discharged

from the battalion in connection with the well known USSR Supreme Soviet resolution. The former served as deputy platoon commander and the latter as section commander. Who will replace them? Really junior commanders, along with everything else, need to know complex combat equipment very well, know how to operate it, including during combat alert. Of course, officers are thinking about how to best solve the problem but in any case [performance of] duty will suffer at a definite stage.

Whether we want them or not, the Army reductions which have begun are having a negative impact on certain officers. Uncertainty about tomorrow has appeared among them. Add to that poor service conditions. Major Yu. Solokha, an experienced battery commander, at first wavered about whether he would serve or not and when he understood that his housing problem would not be solved and that the reductions would afford him the opportunity to transfer to the reserve, he transferred. Senior Lieutenant A. Kupriyanov, a young officer, was also transferred to the reserve.

Because there are no apartments in the small town, it is impossible to recruit a staff of warrant officers. Think, battalion commander, who will replace them!

"Subunit problems are unit problems," said Colonel A. Kutkov, deep in thought. "Look, 50 former students have left us. They were quite tangible losses for us. Really many of them were young commanders, ASU [automated control system], communicators, and radar specialists. At this moment, we have no one to replace them all. With the remaining personnel, we cannot send soldiers on short-term leave and we also cannot give soldiers and sergeants full-fledged rest. And this is most probably how it will be until the end of the year. And we cannot do anything—combat readiness. We would like to train all replacements but who can train them? Just anyone will not do. A definite knowledge level is required. Soldiers from the Spring conscription are not distinguished by a high general education level. Sixty percent were conscripted from the Central Asian and Transcaucasus Republics and many have a weak knowledge of the Russian language. Moreover, conversations with them and correspondence with their parents and with the collectives where they worked and studied prior to service have revealed: Twenty five percent used drugs or alcohol prior to being conscripted. Three had warnings from the public prosecutor's office... Moreover if we seriously think about the qualitative changes in the Army, we need to more diligently prepare young people for service in it," continued Col Kutkov. "We need to conduct mandatory pre-conscription testing of young people on the subject of suitability for service in some branch of the armed forces. Representatives of the services as well as employees of Voenkomats [Military Commissariats] and medical personnel need to participate in this."

Col Kutkov is very concerned about morale of officers subordinate to him and about their training at military schools. Logically, once you have decided to reduce officer personnel, those remaining in staff positions must have yet even higher professional training. But not nearly. Many military school graduates cannot explain elementary issues which affect troop duties, administrative management activity, and do not know guiding documents. Besides, they are poorly trained in technical aspects.

Unit commanders are also alarmed by the fact that recently a trend has appeared among officers toward avoiding command and staff positions by any means. This has been very closely associated with the prospect for advancement. Sixty percent of officer personnel are already justified in long ago obtaining a promotion in position but there is no possibility of doing so. A military school graduate requires an average of 7 to 8 years to reach the position of battery commander. But let us say that we end up in this fix: They are allowed into the academy according to term of service, but their duty position does not permit it.

"Sr Lt Latypov," said the unit commander, "is still a platoon commander at 34 years of age. He has been recommended for promotion three times but each time the documents have been returned without explanation."

We need more effective incentives for military service. Incidentally, almost all unit party organization secretaries advocated this during our meeting with them. For example, this thought was heard: Determine a term of service for soldiers and sergeants depending on the quality of their mastery of a military specialty. Much was said about material incentives for officer labor according to the end result. The fact that the unit award fund is 300 rubles per year is no help. Officer A. Yakovlev's suggestion merits attention. Officers often have to fulfill not only their duties but also fill in for absent co-workers at times for many months. Many are also ready for such a workload. They do not take free time into account and will work up to 10-12 hours per day. But they should receive appropriate monetary compensation for this. Let us say a specialist 3rd class would receive 50 percent of the salary for combining [jobs], a 2nd class specialist would get 75 percent, and a 1st class specialist would get 100 percent. Then there would be a striving to not only conscientiously work but to also increase one's skills. Prestige of rank has also noticeably dropped in recent years. Furthermore, additional money earned during the current level of life in the nation will not be excess in officer families. In short, time is putting forth quite a few problems. New approaches are needed to solve them. Bold, thought-out, effective [approaches]. For the time being, this SAM unit has lost much on a qualitative level in comparison with how it was prior to the reductions.

Reader Asks for Specifications of Su-27

18010003 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
29 Sep 89 First Edition p 4

[Editorial response to a reader's question, entitled: "Su-27: Technical Portrait".]

[Text] Dear Editor! In the materials on the Su-27 Fighter-interceptor, printed in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, technical information on this vehicle was not published. Is it forbidden to publish it?

V. Chernyshov, city of Kuybyshev.

Here is the information:

Takeoff weight, kg:	
—Normal	22,000
—Maximum	30,000
Initial Thrust-weight ratio	1.1
Maximum number M of flight	2.35
Practical ceiling,	more than 18,000 m
Maximum operational overload	9
Maximum range	Up to 4,000 km
Length of takeoff-run	500 m
Length of landing-run	600 m
Engines:	
—2 TRDD AL-31 F	
—total thrust	25,000
WEAPON CONTROL SYSTEMS	
—Coherent Pulse-doppler radar	
—Electro-optical locator	
—Helmet-mounted target designation system	
ARMAMENT:	
—Ten air-to-air guided missiles	
—Built-in 30-mm gun.	

Basic Data on Size of the Navy

18010005

[Editorial Report] Leningrad SUDOSTROYENIYE publishes in its Number 8 issue for August of 1989 in Russian on pages 54-57 an article by N.I. Alekseyev, entitled: "Chronicle of Domestic Shipbuilding and Seafaring", which includes on page 57 the following total numbers for Soviet naval forces

"On 1 July 1988 the Navy of the USSR consisted of 1380 combat ships: 4 aircraft carrying; 376 submarines; 96 cruisers, destroyers, missile frigates, 174 escorts (frigates) and small anti-submarine ships, 623 boats and [mine-] trawlers, and 107 assault landing ships and boats. Aside from that there are 1142 combat aircraft and 12,000 naval infantry personnel."

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Minesweeper Recaptures Pirated Fishing Boat

18010006 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
24 Sep 89 First Edition p 1

[Lieutenant R. Markovets: "Reporting the Details: Naval Minesweeper Frees Soviet Fishing Boat from Piratical Captivity".]

[Text] The occurrence took place on 22 July, but the details have only now become known. The naval minesweeper "Machine-gunner" traveling to join the Northern Fleet, was completing a transit of the sea in neutral waters along the shore of Morocco, when it received a radio call for assistance, transmitted from a Soviet fishing vessel. The commander of the minesweeper, Captain 3rd Rank V. Feopentov, immediately ordered the steersman to change course. The ship turned toward the locale of the fishing factory at full speed.

As it turned out, unknown individuals in a high speed boat had intercepted the SRTM "Captain Orlikov". Boarding the trawler, an armed group of sea pirates isolated the Captain at gunpoint and forced the command to submit to a demand to follow to a point indicated on the shore.

When the naval minesweeper approached the ship, the pirates fired warning shots from an automatic weapon. However, a machinegun round from the "Machine-gunner" forced them to cease fire. In the process of making fast to the trawler, the naval sailors carried out a rapid operation to free our fishermen. A boarding party headed by Lieutenant A. Usovym landed on the SRTM. Under his leadership Lieutenant O. Volochinskiy, 2nd level Senior NCO M. Ibronov and other members of the boarding party disarmed the newly discovered pirates, freed the Captain, the Radio operator, and the engine compartment specialists. "The Machine-gunner", in combat service for more than a month, is successfully fulfilling its combat training missions. It also fulfilled its surprise combat orders brilliantly. A senior naval chief has expressed thanks to the crew of the minesweeper.

Lieutenant R. Markovits.

Correction on Classification of 'Tbilisi'

18010007 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
24 Oct 89 First Edition p 4

[Unattributed: "Aircraft Carrying Cruiser".]

[Text] In a photographic report published in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA on 22 October the testing of a new Soviet ship, the "Tbilisi", being built at Nikolayev is reported. It has been reported from the Main Naval Staff that the material published a terminological imprecision. The "Tbilisi" is related to the class of heavy aircraft carrying cruisers, and not to aircraft carriers.

Auction of Military Equipment in Ural Military District

18010889b Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 12 Aug 89 p 1

[Article by V. Semenov, SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA correspondent from Sverdlovsk: "Military Equipment...by Auction"]

[Text] The first auction for selling motor vehicles from units of the Ural Military District has been conducted by the Machine Building Product Wholesale Trade Enterprise of Sverdlovskglavsnab [Sverdlovsk Main Supply Administration].

"We have sold Ural, ZIL, GAZ-66 and UAZ jeeps," said the enterprise director, S. Milman. "As a total, our enterprise will sell 187 vehicles. We are selling the former military transport not to state enterprises and organizations but solely to cooperatives and leasing collectives and to persons engaged in individual labor activities. The initial price is determined depending upon the wear and is then multiplied by three and this is the sales factor. But for cooperatives operating on state orders, the factor is not employed.

Description of Facilities on Board 'Berezina' Replenishment Ship

18010889a Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Sep 89 First Edition p 1

[Article by Capt 2d Rank V. Pasyakin, KRSNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent: "The Supply Ship 'Berezina'"]

[Text] The "Berezina" is a ship which itself having the tonnage of a battleship is charged with resupplying the carrier cruiser "Baku" while underway. This is something to see as the giant ships cautiously come closer together, equaling one another in speed, while cutting the waves of the Mediterranean with two bow stems. When they were about 80 m apart and traveling on parallel courses, a thin snake of a throwing line flashed from the "Berezina" and this line became the first connecting link between the ships.

A delivery system with just one cableway and which I was acquainted with by the chief mate, Capt 2d Rank P. Puzikov, includes nine positions. These are the most important, key operations. The sailors have their hands full when they set all the necessary lines! A crew of six men operates each "strain." One of them is headed by the battery commander, Sr Lt A. Abdula and the second by the radar engineer, Sr Lt S. Vinogradov. The "Berezina" generally, when necessary, can supply several ships simultaneously with the abreast and bow-to-stern methods.

But the main difficulties lie not in the amount of work but rather in the strictest synchronization of actions. And this demand is equally valid for those controlling the ships. One has merely to point out that the course is maintained with an accuracy of 1/10 of a degree and

speed down to one or two engine revolutions. In order to reduce the possibility of breaking the cable for monitoring the abreast distance between the ships and the amount of their displacement relative to one another the "Berezina" is equipped with a special radar device which can pick up any, even the most insignificant shift in the ships. Incidentally, this radar is only a drop in the bucket of the amazing equipment with which this unique and one-of-a-kind ship is supplied. Imagine a gigantic and universal supply dump which has everything necessary for ships and vessels at sea. For carrying the supplies there are 48 storerooms and 27 storage areas where for each type of supplies and reserves the necessary conditions have been provided.

The diverse functions and tasks of the "Berezina" and its presence at sea increase the capabilities of the squadron and facilitate the rather labor-intensive process of ship supply. It is worthy of note that the "Berezina" is not an auxiliary vessel but a ship. For this reason, in addition to its other functions, its crew, in having weapons on board, can also carry out combat tasks. Such universality places increased demands on the crew and imposes special responsibility on the sailors.

Conversion of Missile Base to Agricultural Use

18010887b Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Sep 89 Second Edition p 2

[Article by PRAVDA correspondent V. Vorobyev from Pskov Oblast: "Rural Conversion"]

[Text] On the large desk of the chairman of the Pskov Cherskiy Kolkhoz, V. Sidorenko, lay a map of the fields.

"Do you see there that blank area?" said Vladimir Romanovich [Sidorenko]. "That was a former missile base. At one time around 300 hectares of our lands were turned over to it. And there were also more than 100 hectares from the state holdings. Recently, these areas were returned to us."

Winding through the spruce and birch is a narrow, concrete strip. It is flat as a table. V. Sidorenko confidently drives the jeep. The curves are taken without reducing speed. There is no danger. It is a lonely track. The cowberries bloom along the sides. There are billberry patches and then swampy areas with fine cranberries. You could see mushrooms with the naked eye. And when we halted for a moment to enjoy this beauty, we were again assaulted by a raw and astringent odor. This was the smell of the milk mushroom which grew in the thickets.

We drove up to an oblong hill which had been planted in birches.

"A hangar. Here we could house hundreds of cows," said Vladimir Romanovich. "Shall we take a look?"

Behind the impressive metal door were vast rooms. There was a high ceiling and a sound flood. One had

merely to install a milk line, water line and provide conveyors for feed and removing manure.

Nearby was another similar room. Here had been the former garage for the combat vehicles.

"And here we will make a storage area for feed."

Not far off was another hill planted under pines.

"Here is another hangar. Here we will move in a group of cows," said the chairman. "And there, just look, are concrete 'patches.' There will be a summer milking area there and a bit further the manure storage."

Wending through the forest, we again, as they say, stumbled on structures. In one of them they propose organizing the fattening of hogs. In another the energetic chairman was thinking about growing mushrooms.

Then the road brought us to the military camp which was deserted and hence sad. We went into the mess hall. On the wall there was still a menu hanging.

"Just look how fine the mess is," exclaimed V. Sidorenko. "What a kitchen, just look at the tiles! And the refrigerators.... Here we plan to build a cheese factory. The productivity would be over a thousand tons of product a day. We have more than enough raw materials. The kolkhoz has over a thousand cows. And we are still adding to it...."

The chairman showed us the heated garages, the vegetable storage areas and the kvas shop. We had a look in the soldier barracks, the medical station and the bath-houses.

"Things were done well," said Vladimir Romanovich. "Clearly, the commander was concerned for this. And this is all good for us. The barracks are being rebuilt. From each we will produce two cottages."

Work was already underway at the power plant where there were mothballed motors and in the boiler room. The electrician V. Aleksenyev, the deputy kolkhoz chairman P. Rumyantsev and construction workers from the Pskov Raduzhnyy cooperative were testing the thermal networks, they were demothballing the equipment and repairing the water line. The camp will be in use by winter. Here the new owners will move in and the farm will begin operating.

Later we returned to the village along the meadowlands and the flax and grain fields. The chairman figured as follows: the construction of housing, production facilities, the power plant, boiler room and the laying of roads would have cost several million rubles. But just try to find the materials and manpower. But now it would take just several thousand rubles to "fix everything up."

What will the former military base provide for the kolkhoz? Milk production will rise by 20 percent, and the fattening of hogs will double. By winter there will be

already around 2,000 hogs here. The Cherskiy Kolkhoz will begin supplying cheese for the entire rayon.

This inheritance did not come so easily to the kolkhoz. Sidorenko had to go to Moscow where he begged, demanded and persuaded....

Changing Military Transport Organization, Equipment for Guards

*18010887a Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
12 Sep 89 First Edition p 2*

[Article by Maj Gen (Res) V. Tkachenko: "There Is An Alternative to the Existing System for the Guarding and Escorting of Military Freight by Rail"]

[Text] In KRSNAYA ZVEZDA of 4 January, I read a reply to one of the newspaper's articles signed by the chief of the Central Directorate for Military Communications, Lt Gen Yu. Vorontsov. It, in particular, said: "New guard cars have been developed and have been successfully tested. By 1995, the Ministry of Railroads plans to manufacture about 2,000 such cars. This will make it possible to improve living conditions for the personnel of the guards en route."

As I learned, by the end of 1989, they plan to manufacture around 200 such cars. In comparison with the heated cars they, of course, represent a major step forward. But it is no secret that even these 200 cars will be very difficult to use. I predict that many of them are doomed to standing idle. Why?

With the existing shipping system, it will turn out to be simply ill-advised to employ them, since with the need to service and guard these cars, a number of new difficulties will arise. For example, the large empty run and, consequently, the increased time the guards must remain en route. The need for personnel will rise, respectively. You will agree that such an approach is not the best. How at present are military shipments carried out? Each military train usually consisting of 1-5 cars and more rarely 6-15 is guarded by a guard of several men who follow in the heated boxcar. For instance, up to 15 military trains pass through Sverdlovsk in 24 hours in the same direction. There may be even more. For each of them there is a guard. Is it impossible to organize things better?

It turns out that they can be better organized. The alternative to the existing system of military shipments is the principle of pooling the military trains on the main lines. Why not bring together 7-10 and more military trains traveling in the same direction? Certainly then it would be possible to reduce the requirement for guard personnel in interdistrict shipments by 2-3-fold.

If one takes a state approach to solving this question, then each year it would be possible to free up to 100,000 cars and this is the equivalent of around 8 million tons of shipped national economic freight.

Even in 1979, the Ural Military District worked out in detail a new system for organizing military shipments in order to pool the military trains on the main routes. For example, such a train is traveling along the Transsiberian at one time. All the military commandants know its schedule and they can unhitch and hitch the cars. The guarding of the train is assigned to one guard detachment and for this reason it is possible to assign a warrant officer ["praporshchik"] or even an officer as the person in charge, equip the train with telephone communications from the locomotive to the guard posts. In such an instance it is possible to select the men and certainly significantly fewer guard detachments would be needed.

Here, of course, the 200 cars specially equipped for the guard detachments would be sufficient and it would not be necessary to take extremely necessary transport from the national economy. In addition to this, merely by reducing expenditures on the daily rations and travel of the guards we could save around 12 million rubles.

The proposed system arose as a result of years-long reflections and study of the state of affairs of military shipments on the nation's railroads. Incidentally, this is well known also at the Central Directorate for Military Communications where I was employed. Some 10 years ago officers, presently Cols S. Doylidov and V. Panfilov, helped me to carry out the calculations and establish the advisability of its use.

However, the extremely subjective, and I would even say prejudiced approach by the leaders of the military communications service, prevented the testing of my proposal even as an experiment. Possibly it is worth coming back to.

Conversion of Space Program Shops to Civilian Production

18010896a Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 14 Sep 89 Second Edition p 1

[Article by A. Filippov, TASS correspondent: "They Make 'Protons' Here"]

[Text] Up until quite recently, associates of this enterprise, from the director on down to the worker, were not allowed to talk about their plant even to their family. We joked: We make bicycles. And, indeed, one of the shops here makes the "Druzhok" children's bicycle, the best in the country and one of the top-rated in the world (Japan alone has placed an order for 50,000). But the journalists who for the first time were invited to the Moscow Machine Building Plant imeni M.V. Khrushchev the other day were shown altogether different shops. Representatives of the mass media were able to become thoroughly familiar with the country's declassified space shipyard, whose main products are orbital stations, spacecraft modules, and the famous "Proton" booster rockets.

"Today, the plant is no longer a defense plant," noted its director, A. Kiselev. "Industrial ozonizers occupy an

important place among our products intended for the national economy; they will be installed in waste water treatment plants in enterprises. The capacity of the ozonizers is sufficient for ecological cleanup of polluted areas today. Recently, part of our facilities switched to manufacturing gas-cylinder devices for automobile engines under an Italian license. Their high degree of airtightness is the main requirement for introduction of this promising type of transportation. Our wealth of experience in working with similar components in spacecraft will enable us to achieve high quality.

"At the same time, production of our main product—modules for the Mir orbital complex—continues in the peacetime stocks."

Defense Housing Construction for Retirees

18010896c Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Sep 89 First Edition p 1

[Interview with Maj Gen O. Borisov, acting chief of the Organization and Planning Directorate of Capital Construction of the USSR Ministry of Defense, by Maj I. Ivanyuk, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent: "One Hundred Houses. How the Decision Is Being Carried Out."]

[Text] As KRASNAYA ZVEZDA has already reported, early in the year the Ministry of Defense adopted a decision to build housing, using ministry funds, for service members being transferred to the reserve and being retired in connection with the armed forces cuts. Over the course of this year and next, about 7,500 apartments will be earmarked for this purpose, which roughly corresponds to 100 buildings with 60-80 apartments in each.

How is this program being implemented? Maj Gen O. Borisov, acting chief of the Organization and Planning Directorate of Capital Construction of the USSR Ministry of Defense, talks about this.

[Borisov] I want to explain that these apartments will be assigned in buildings from among those being built during these 2 years under the plan of the USSR Ministry of Defense within established limits of capital investments and material and technical resources, and also with a percentage participation by the armed services under the union-republic plans. A total of 3,886 apartments should be built this year, 1,586 of them in 9 months. That is, these are buildings that are already on the itemized list of approved projects. As far as the progress of construction is concerned, out of the 24 buildings that are planned to be turned over by the end of the third quarter, 16 have been turned over, and the rest are being prepared for submission to the state acceptance commissions. Each of these buildings is under special control.

The fleet construction workers are working pretty well. The Pacific and Baltic fleets have each turned over two buildings for operation; the Black Sea Fleet has turned over one. Housing is ready for those transferred to the

reserve because of the reductions who select Vladivostok and Lipeyaya as their permanent residence. Nine-story residential buildings have been put in service in Khabarovsk, Baranovichi, Kalinin, and Ivanovo; five-story buildings have been put in service in Astrakhan, Lida, and Gorkiy.

At the same time, it cannot be said that everything is going smoothly. So far, the state acceptance commission has not accepted a 60-apartment building in Sverdlovsk, although the military construction workers completed work on it back in June. Everything is being held up because the heating lines to the building are not ready; this is being done by the municipal organizations. And they are in no hurry. Erection of a 60-apartment residential building in Novosibirsk is being delayed due to interruptions in deliveries of structures from enterprises of the national economy. There is a similar situation in Irkutsk, where military construction workers of the Transbaykal Military District are erecting a building.

[Ivanyuk] The progress of the construction can be pictured differently. As far as occupancy of the buildings is concerned, according to the decision of the USSR Ministry of Defense, in order to use the floor space for its intended purpose for service members being discharged due to the reductions, its distribution is approved by decisions of the commanders in chief of the armed services on the recommendation of the commanders of districts, fleets, groups of forces, and formations. The editorial office has been receiving complaints and requests for assistance in resolving a most urgent problem—housing for service members being released from the armed forces due to the reductions. Here is one of the letters to the editor:

"In early May, the Main Staff of the Air Forces sent out documents listing the cities where apartments will be allocated for officers who have served at least 25 years, in particular, for those who are now serving outside the country and do not have an apartment in the USSR," writes officer G. Fedorov. "I selected the city of Melitopol from this list, filled out the documents, and sent them by the indicated date to the higher headquarters. Four months have already passed, and there are no concrete results, not even a response. Personnel workers ask me where they should send my service record; you see, I am already being discharged. What can I tell them?"

As you can see, the questions of occupancy of the buildings earmarked for those who are going into the reserve are still not sufficiently clear.

Conversion: Diversification at Transbaykal Tank Repair Plant

18010896b Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
17 Sep 89 First Edition p 2

[Unattributed article: "Diesels and Skewers"]

[Text] Many understand and have grown used to the word "conversion," signifying the shift of part of the defense

industry to producing peacetime products. They more rarely talk about diversification, although military enterprises have for a long time been producing diverse and, as a rule, high-quality consumer goods in addition to the main defense products. Now, the scale of diversification is to increase considerably.

How is this task being accomplished at a specific enterprise? It was namely this question that brought the participants in the "Krasnaya Zvezda-90" expedition to a tank repair plant located in the Transbaykal Military District.

"Just don't criticize the shashlik skewers," said the plant's chief engineer, Lt Col V. Shimanskiy, smiling as he said goodbye. "This is a product that is needed and in short supply, and they are bought up instantly. Cooperators pester us with a proposal to take them at wholesale..."

We are not criticizing them; on the contrary, we are striving to show the range of the search by the plant's designers and manufacturing engineers at an enterprise that repairs or writes off tanks and infantry fighting vehicles and at the same time manufactures sheds, metal garages, gates for brick garages, camping tents, automobile covers, hothouse equipment, components for wooden and metal fences, ironing boards, and various industrial rubber components... It is all in demand. True, the trade and purchasing bases accept the products for sale without any special desire: It turns out that they are inexpensive. The plant cannot artificially overstate the prices. Here the labor productivity is so much higher than in any other handicraft workshop.

The volume of production of consumer goods this year will be 350,000 rubles; next year's plan is 800,000. Is this high or low for such an enterprise? The plant workers believe it is low.

Despite the fact that current revenues primarily come not from selling ironing boards and skewers; consumer goods also include tanks and infantry fighting vehicles that are repaired and re-equipped as prime movers, bulldozers, and all-terrain vehicles and delivered to geologists, gold miners, railroad workers, kolkhozes, and sovkhoses. From three worn-out vehicles they manage to assemble one that is still quite suitable for extended operation.

On an infantry fighting vehicle, for example, they cut off the roof, a canopy is attached, and, as a result, geologists receive reliable transportation for off-road travel. Kolkhoz managers ask them to keep the turrets on the tanks for the weight; it turns out to be an excellent silage packer. And if engineer equipment is hung on the armor, it is a good bulldozer.

The plant also repairs K-750 and MV-750 motorcycles already removed from service, but there is practically no profit from this. It turned out that the cost of the spare parts needed to restore the three-wheeled vehicle almost equals the strictly fixed cost of the motorcycle itself. But

there nevertheless is a gain; the motorcycle will be running over the roads for a long time yet. Part of the repaired and restored equipment is transferred to military-patriotic associations. In this case, of course, there also cannot be any profit.

This is how diversification appears at a fairly powerful enterprise.

"There is nothing to boast about," said Col R. Valiulin, armored service department chief of the Transbaykal Military District, whom we met at the plant's management. "The work is only beginning."

The party committee secretary of the enterprise, A. Mikhaylov, agrees with him completely. The plant workers dream about manufacturing complex equipment and instruments that people need and repairing machines that require high qualifications and modern equipment. The repair workers have great capabilities. The enterprise, say, manufactures automatic machines for corrosion-proofing of tank engines. With relatively little effort on the part of designers and manufacturing engineers, the automatic machine could be made into a compact washing machine that is popular today. The plant could also manufacture various types of household pumps, and they could find an intelligent use for the considerable number of electric motors they have accumulated. They could also increase the scale of simpler production, let us say, accessories for furniture and certain types of furniture itself.

What is impeding the development of diversification? One could blame the lack of initiative and industriousness of the enterprise's workers, but there are more weighty and serious causes. It is very difficult to arrange supplying ancillary production with raw material, materials, and component assemblies. Manufacturing the washing machines mentioned above requires plastics and special electric motors. Try as they may, the plant workers were unable to obtain them. It is even more complicated to acquire industry-wide equipment, not to mention special equipment. Today, bargains are made only by the principle: You do something for me, and I will do something for you.

The Main Armor Directorate of the Ministry of Defense sent the plant a list of 120 enterprises recommended for setting up mutually beneficial ties and wholesale trade. But no matter where the Transbaykal plant workers turned with their proposals and requests, they were turned down.

They see in the plant another attractive and very promising path of diversification: Providing the population with automotive repair services—"Zhiguli," "Moskvich," and possibly "Zaporozhets" automobiles. This work would not at all affect basic production. It is easy to set up, and they have everything necessary: a suitable vacant area in the shop; machine tool equipment; good specialists of any specialty. They even have an alternate access to the plant from the city. Only one thing is missing—spare parts. However, experimental

paid repair of automotive equipment belonging to the workers themselves has shown that the quality is very high—factory-level.

Where to get the spare parts? The city service station did not want to share them; what is more, they are quite concerned with the appearance of a possible competitor. Hope remains for direct ties with the Volga Motor Vehicle Plant. If they are able to arrange this, the automotive enthusiasts of the city will breathe a sigh of relief.

First of all, the enterprise would take care of veterans of war and labor and former soldiers. You see, now the so-called benefit recipients have to wait months for their turn for repairs.

Diversification for the plant, whose basic production for the next few years is clearly determined by financing, is a vital necessity. It could help correct matters in the long-neglected social and cultural sphere. It could rejuvenate the labor collective. In 22 years the repair workers have managed to accumulate funds for building only one residential building, and it is frozen at a standstill. As is the construction of a general school, which is so critically needed. The children of the settlement, which has become close to the plant, are forced to study in three shifts.

The average age of the people working in tank repair increases with each year. The day is already in sight when many will receive the right to go on pension, and this really worries the administration. There are dozens of masters in their jobs at the plant, but there are no young trainees next to them. The young people prefer to work in the taiga, in the mines, and rebukes here would be inappropriate. The enterprise does not offer housing, and its cultural base consists of a club housed in a former garage. There is no athletic facility at all. It is difficult to attract the young to the machine tool with wages, even quite decent for these parts.

The Transbaykal workers do a good job of repairing tanks and infantry fighting vehicles. If a vehicle comes in for repairs again years later, they easily recognize their work—high quality, conscientious. Nevertheless, in the party and trade union organizations the conversation turns more and more often to improving production and restructuring the life of the collective. But they cannot conceive this restructuring without expanding diversification. First of all, a special group of specialists has been created, headed by engineer V. Malyshev; it is called upon to study this problem and set, as they say, a generating impulse.

"We do not expect quick and rapid changes," Vasilii Mikhaylovich Malyshev shares his plans. "We are beaten realists. We have been around too much inertia, 'objective difficulties,' and artificial barriers. Nevertheless, in about 2 years we will show you not skewers, but consumer goods and a system of consumer services that are fully comparable to our basic production."

'Molniya' Plant Producing Dairy Industry Equipment

90UM0045A Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
13 Oct 89 First Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "Another Plant Specialty"]

[Text] Until recently the Moscow Molniya machine building plant has produced mainly defense products. But beginning this year along with two other enterprises—one in Plavsk and the other in Makhachkala—it is becoming a production association which is assigned the production of modern industrial separators for enterprises that process milk and produce dairy products.

The general director, N. Mironov, a USSR people's deputy, explained: "The main purpose of the creation of the new Molniya Mashinostroitelnyy Zavod association is to take advantage of the potential of the defense industry enterprise in plants that produce purely peacetime products. Agriculture is very much in need of these separators. And not only for dairies but also for enterprises that manufacture medicines. Experimental models will be put into production as early as this year."

Bureaucratic Problems Afflict Medical Treatment of Servicemen

90UM0045b Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
13 Oct 89 First Edition p 2

[Letter from V. Antonov, captain medical service, medical service unit chief, and response from editors: "In the Grips of the Bureaucracy"]

[Text] Esteemed editors, I read the note from Colonel of the Medical Service F. Tebishevskiy, "Money to the Wind" (KRASNAYA ZVEZDA for 15 July 1989) and wish to express my opinion regarding this crucial problem—signing military servicemen out of medical institutions and also sending them for treatment. Its solution depends not so much on the efficiency of the command units as on the management of the existing bureaucratic procedure.

Judge for yourselves. In order to send a patient to a therapeutic institution which is located outside the garrison it is necessary to obtain written permission from the higher staff. It is all right if he has this authority, but what if he must go to the next higher level? As a rule it takes 8-10 days for a telegram, after the verification of the facts, to reach the command unit.

Now imagine the position of a unit doctor who must send a patient to the hospital immediately. For example, a patient who is mentally ill. A number of problems arise. Here is just one: Where to keep this patient until permission is obtained from above? After all, he must be placed in a specialized institution. And so the chief of the medical unit is forced to find a place for the patient and organize a guard for him.

A similar situation arises when military servicemen are signed out. There is the same official correspondence with the higher staffs. But here one must add the time it takes to "obtain" the tickets (travel documents are issued to the accompanying personnel after written permission is received). Here come the astronomical figures of labor losses about which Colonel of Medical Service Tebishevskiy writes.

And frequently the administrations of treatment institutions, having lost patience and the hope of seeing the person who is to accompany the soldier or trainee who has been restored to health, turn to the senior medical supervisors. The process of signing out must be accelerated. And, as a rule, again the person left holding the bag...is the unit doctor, who has "organized the solution to the problem poorly."

As you can see, the roots of the problem are not in the negligence of the unit commanders, nor in their inefficiency, nor in the treatment institutions. I repeat, they are a product of the outmoded bureaucratic procedure which, in my opinion, it is time to revise.

From the Editors. This is not the first time the readers have raised the questions that bother Captain of Medical Service V. Antonov. Indeed the situation is not in keeping with common sense. But, as we see, the situation has remained the same for many years. We should like to know what they think about this in the Central Military Medical Administration.

Work Of Military Prep School Highlighted*18310036a Baku KOMMUNIST in Azeri 14 Jul 89 p 3*

[Interview with Lieutenant-General (Ret.) V. Barshadly, Director of the J. Nakhchivanski Republic Specialized Internat: "Patriots Are Being Trained". (The first paragraph is an editorial introduction.)]

[Text] The J. Nakhchivanski republic specialized boarding school is 18 years old. Over the years close to 2,400 youths have graduated from the school of which two thousand have continued their education in higher military schools. Data on the graduates comes from Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, Tashkent, Rostov, Kharkov, Alma Ata, Perm, Krasnodar and other cities. Last year 245 graduated from the school of which 210 went on to higher military schools.

Now silence reigns in the school's lecture halls and dormitories. Lectures have halted because students are on summer vacation, and preparations for the new school year have begun. One of the basic concerns is organizing for the arrival of new students. In connection with this, Lieutenant General (Ret.) V. Barshadly, director of the boarding school, said in a conversation with a KOMMUNIST correspondent:

"Youths who have finished the 7th class of various rayon and city schools of our republic are sending in applications to enter our boarding school. We select from their ranks those with the greatest desire to enter military life who are physically sound and who are the most knowledgeable and prepared. This year we have planned on accepting 330. Even though more than 15 days remain before we begin interviews, we have already received close to 300 applications.

The necessary conditions have been created for students at the school, which occupies 10 hectares, so that they get an education and master military knowledge, competence and habits. Three dormitories, two class buildings (a third is under construction), an administration building, a cafeteria, a swimming pool and stables for horse are at the disposal of the students. Three gymnasiums equipped with modern facilities are available. There is a training field and an obstacle course also.

Classes are held on the laboratory principle. Mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, history, social studies, geography, basic military training, language and sports laboratories having programmed equipment which assess the students' knowledge are exerting a positive influence in the demonstration of information and raising the quality of instruction. Science laboratories are equipped with technological teaching devices.

Experienced teachers, educators and military leaders work in the pedagogical collective. There are also graduates of the school among them: for example, company commander and Senior Lieutenant A. Huseynov graduated from our school. After training at the Baku Higher Military Command School imeni Azerbaijan SSR

Supreme Soviet, he fulfilled his internationalist duty in Afghanistan. He was awarded the Red Star for his battlefield services. All in all, thirteen graduates were awarded decorations and medals for during their service in Afghanistan. We are in regular contact with all of them. Meetings we hold with graduates and war veterans are playing a major role in the military patriotic education of the students.

A. Kh. Vezirov, first secretary of the CC Azerbaijan Communist Party, came to our school and acquainted himself with our students' educational, military and physical training. Our pedagogical collective is unstinting in the attention and concern it displays. We do not hold back our strength and ability in training patriots worthy of participating in the processes of perestroika.

At the conclusion of our talk, I wish to give good news to youths interested in our school. By order of the USSR Minister of Defense, from this year on graduates of specialized boarding schools will be accepted into higher military schools without examination.

Intensified Language, Physical Training at Dushanbe*90UM00044 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Sep 89 First Edition p 3*

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Col A. Ladin: "What Is New in the Special School?—Follow-Up to a Letter"]

[Text] On 13 May of this year your newspaper printed a letter written by N. Lipaks relating to problems the Dushanbe Special School is experiencing in intensified study of the Russian language and pre-service physical training. I would like to know if any changes have been made as a result of the article.

Major G. Shkurko

A new principal—Mirzo Dzhonovich Dzhokov—has been appointed for the Dushanbe Special Boarding School to head intensified instruction in the Russian language and pre-service physical training. He invited me so that I could have a look at the changes that are being made in the school.

We started the tour by inspecting the cafeteria. Until recently it appeared unattractive and neglected. I saw major repair in progress, with obsolete equipment being replaced at a good pace.

New furniture was being installed. The area surrounding the washstand was spacious; the principal had eliminated the privilege of eating behind closed doors in a separate room that the staff previously had enjoyed. School workers are now required to sit with the students and pay for their own meals, which are the same as those served the students.

A major new feature of the school property is availability of hot water wherever it is required. It cost the new

principal much effort to have lines installed for every washstand in the dormitory. Now that hot water is available, a long-awaited shower facility is not far off. Although small in size, it will be equipped to offer convenience.

The new principal has much practical experience to back him up. Of his 60 years, 37 were devoted to working in republic MVD organs. With the rank of reserve major general, he is also a distinguished jurist of the Tajik SSR. Mirzo Dzhonovich was not quick to accept the position as head of the special school. Things had deteriorated there quite a bit.

The new principal started off by requesting all troublesome students and ten instructors to leave the collective. He was able to obtain 40,000 rubles to make repairs and purchase necessary furniture.

A football field was readied and walkways paved in the course of the summer. He made changes in the club room by installing new furniture, making it possible to show films and present concerts featuring amateur performers.

It was especially difficult to improve the quality of incoming students; negative hearsay did not make the task any easier. The lack of confidence in the special boarding school was acutely felt. There was another cause, however. Some rayon public education departments and local military commissariats continued to employ old and unsatisfactory methods to select candidates for the school. A number of oblasts exhibited especially poor performance in organizing candidate selection, with the result that only 160 candidates instead of 400 appeared at the school for the interview at the appointed time. Garmskiy Rayon did not send a single candidate to the special school; Dzhirgatal'skiy, Komsomolabad'skiy, and Tursunzadev'skiy rayons each provided one. On the other hand, there were about 30 candidates who had come to apply on their own volition.

The principal made the decision that to assure the collective a supply of quality newcomers, it is necessary to generate wider publicity for the school in remote corners of Tajikistan. To disseminate more information on the school in the republic, he also decided to seek funds to produce video tape, posters, brochures, and

television and radio programs. In addition, teams of instructors will visit remote areas.

The DOSAAF Central Committee of Tajikistan has collaborated in drawing up plans to organize technical groups for future military school cadets. A computer class will be offered here in the near future. One of the office rooms being vacated will house an officers' honor club that will be organized. The new year will see a new ballroom dancing club.

However, a dream the director hopes to realize in the near future is creation of a suburban defense sports camp and a school subsidiary farm that will include a fruit orchard. A more remote goal is construction of a standard-design special boarding school. The site has already been selected.

Mirzo Dzhonovich took advantage of the situation by reminding the directors of clothing factories in Kazan, in the town of Kimry in Kalinin Oblast, the Moscow Association, and of a footwear factory in Kuznetsk that the special boarding school in Dushanbe is anxiously awaiting their products. The uniform and footwear suppliers have defaulted in providing the students with all the necessities.

The last question I put to the principal was: "What educational policy do you intend to employ in the present school year?" Mirzo Dzhonovich answered that he will require his instructors and teaching officers to demonstrate initiative, creativity, and personal attention to the students. As far as the students are concerned, he will demand application to their studies. A culture of knowledge and physical conditioning will dominate the life of the collective. The students in various ways will intensify their knowledge and mastery of the Russian language as they interact with each other.

"We are obligated to render our school ever more prestigious in the republic," said the principal with feeling and enthusiasm. "This should be an interesting and captivating place. It is my sincere desire that the graduates of the Dushanbe Special Boarding School encounter no problems in being accepted by any of the country's higher military educational institutions. Our collective is capable of accomplishing this objective."

This marked the end of my discussion with the principal. Only the future can determine if his dreams and plans will be made a reality.

Military Technical Review: Changes to U.S. OV-10, F-111

18010888 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
6 Sep 89 First Edition p 3

[Article, published under the heading "Military Technical Review," by A. Shilov: "For the Air Arsenals"]

[Text]

Modernization of OV-10 Bronco

The special-purpose aircraft OV-10 Bronco is the name given to the anti-insurgency aircraft which, as the foreign press has announced, has been maximally adapted for fighting in local wars. Interest in this aircraft has risen since at the recent Farnborough International Air Show specialists from the Rockwell firm provided extensive information on the program for modernizing 42 of the Broncos.

The history of the development of this aircraft goes back to the mid-1960s, where at the very peak of the fighting in Vietnam, American military specialists were persuaded that the supersonic Phantom and the heavy B-52 were ineffective against the guerrillas. At that time, the Pentagon placed orders with American firms to develop a completely new, anti-insurgency aircraft. The program was considered so prestigious that its implementation was taken up by the "fashion setters" in the United States, that is, such firms as McDonnell-Douglas, Lockheed, General Dynamics and Convair. The winner in the competition was North American (presently Rockwell International). The aircraft developed by it was named the OV-10 Bronco.

Externally it is a two-beam monoplane with the overhead positioning of a straight wing and a double tail. Its crew consists of two men (a pilot and an observer) located one behind the other in an armored cockpit. The press has emphasized that in terms of armor this is one of the most protected aircraft in the world.

The propulsion unit consists of two turboprop engines with a power of 715 hp each and capable of operating both on aviation and motor vehicle fuel. The fuel is carried in five self-sealing wing fuel tanks made from foamed plastics which prevent an explosion of the vaporous fuel mix in the tank should it be hit by a shell.

The weapons of the aircraft include four M-60 machine guns mounted on short beams along the sides of the fuselage. Incidentally, the choice of ordinary army machine guns and not special aviation ones is caused by the fact that the Bronco should "work" directly with the ground troops and its unit of fire could be replenished with standard infantry cartridges. In addition to the machine guns, on seven external store attachments they can mount various weapons weighing up to 1,620 kg including bombs, canisters with unguided missiles, additional cannons, machine guns, grenade launchers as well as air-to-air missiles making it possible for the aircraft to attack not only ground targets but also hit enemy helicopters.

One of the merits of the OV-10 is the possibility of operation from primitive runways, field landing strips and highways. It also can land and take off freely on a carrier deck without the use of a catapult and an aircraft arresting gear. The length of its take-off run is around 200 m.

The OV-10a was widely employed in Vietnam for reconnaissance, for escorting helicopters, for forward aviation spotting and direct support of the ground troops and river flotillas. In the course of combat, the aircraft proved itself very well from the viewpoint of the American pilots. The foreign press, in particular, has pointed out that even at slow speed due to the high maneuverability of the Bronco, it was possible to effectively avoid enemy antiaircraft fire.

This is a universal aircraft. In addition to purely combat missions, it is capable of ferrying army groups, dropping assault troops and it can also be employed as an air ambulance. In the cargo bay located in the fuselage tail, it is possible to carry up to 1.5 ton of cargo, five parachutists or two wounded on stretchers and two medics.

Modifications of the Bronco have been provided for export including to Thailand (OV-10c), to Venezuela (OV-10e), to Indonesia (OV-10f), to South Korea (OV-10g), Morocco and West Germany.

The new model D differs in that it has been adopted for nighttime reconnaissance and combat. For this under the fuselage nose in a spherical fairing they have mounted a forward-looking infrared radar and a laser target range-finder. In addition, the armament has been strengthened. Beneath the fuselage, as on a helicopter gunship, on a movable turret they can mount a three-barreled M-97 cannon with a caliber of 20 mm. This is a rather rare instance in the practice of world aircraft building.

The total cost of modernization, as has been pointed out in the press, is \$78 million. The start of deliveries is planned for 1991.

Testing of the F-111

An adaptive wing is a wing which does not have conventional controls such as ailerons, slats and flaps. It possesses the property of smoothly changing the wing section camber depending upon the flight's mode.

For a number of years in the United States, the Boeing firm has conducted research on the adaptive wing program. In design terms, such a wing is an aerodynamic surface which is smooth from leading edge to the trailing edge. The leading edge is single-section and can be deflected smoothly to 1 degree upwards and 20 degrees downward. The trailing edge section consists of three sections each of which can also be deflected by 1 degree upward and by 18 degrees downward, and the inner parts of the port and starboard wing can be deflected to one side like the flaps of conventional aircraft while the middle and outer sections are asymmetrical, working both as flaps and as ailerons.

One other interesting detail and that is that the skin of the wing is a single piece and has been made from fiberglass. Its upper panels, with a change in the wing camber at the moment of the deflecting of the leading edge and the trailing edge assemblies smoothly change their curvature without destroying the integrity of the contour while the lower ones slip one beneath the other, thereby compensating for the shortening of the surface. This provides ventilation and the removal of surplus air from the inner cavity of the wing. The leading edge and each trailing edge section of the outer wing are operated by a rather complex lever mechanism.

The F-111 fighter bomber has been chosen for flight testing of an adaptive wing. The point is that this aircraft has a variable-configuration wing and hence can completely test the operation of the new design with different air-flow angles. The foreign press has emphasized that due to the complexity of the developed system, the first flight has repeatedly been put off but it still has been made.

Initially some 26 flights were made with a total length of 58 hours with a maximum speed in the air reaching $M = 1.8$ and the angle of sweep changing from 26 to 58 degrees. The preliminary results showed that the flight range of a F-111 aircraft with an adaptive wing (the aircraft was assigned the designation AFTI/F-111) at supersonic speed can be increased by 25-30 percent in comparison with a conventional F-111. The pilot who tested the aircraft commented that piloting with a change in the wing camber did not present any special problems. Everything occurred virtually as with a conventional fighter.

After installing in the aircraft a specialized computer for controlling the adaptive wing as well as certain additional equipment which provided piloting of the aircraft under automatic conditions, the second stage of flight testing commenced and in the course of this they examined the conditions for controlling the wing profile in a level cruising flight (they were to determine whether or not it was possible to reduce drag), under conditions of controlling the acceleration with abrupt maneuvering, conditions of improving maneuverability in air combat and the conditions of controlling lift or lessening the effects of wind loads.

The American journals FLIGHT and JANE'S DEFENSE WEEKLY have pointed out that results obtained in the course of testing the adaptive wing are to be employed first of all in developing new long-range, highly maneuverable combat aircraft. In particular, information on the behavior of the adaptive wing has already been provided to the firms participating in the program for developing the ATF fighter.

Ministry of Defense Comment on PACEX-89

18011020a Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
23 Sep 89 First Edition p 5

[Unattributed article: "In the USSR Ministry of Defense"]

[Text] The Asian-Pacific Region is once again uneasy. PACEX-89 has been conducted there by the U.S. and its allies since 16 September 1989 and, by spatial scope, composition of attached forces and equipment, content of tasks being carried out, it is the largest operational activity conducted by the United States in this region since the Second World War.

Headquarters, formations, and units of the Armed Forces of Japan, South Korea, Canada, the Philippines, and a number of other countries are participating in the exercise. More than 200,000 men, over 500 aircraft, up to 100 ships and boats, including four aircraft carriers and a destroyer with Tomahawk cruise missiles are participating in the exercise. Admiral H. Hardesty, commander of U.S. military forces in the Pacific and Indian Ocean region, is conducting the exercise. The exercise will continue until 10 October.

A characteristic peculiarity of PACEX-89 is that the time periods and the scenario for conducting it are coordinated with a series of major NATO Autumn Forge-89 joint armed forces exercises in Europe and in the Atlantic.

This fact is graphic evidence of the single trend being conducted at the present time in force operational training measures of the naval forces of the U.S. and its allies in various regions of the world.

The fact draws attention to itself that this demonstration of military force is being conducted precisely at a time when specific steps have been noted to reduce military confrontation both in Europe and in the Asian-Pacific region thanks to the Soviet Union's peaceful initiatives.

NATO 'COLD FIRE-89' Exercise Noted

18011020b Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
23 Sep 89 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed article: "Cold Fire 89"]

[Text] A NATO Joint Air Forces exercise called Cold Fire 89 took place from 11 through 20 September. According to the scenario, all air forces which participated in the exercise were divided into offensive and defensive sides. During the initial phase, the opposing groups worked out issues of offensive and defensive air operations and changed roles and continued carrying out the appropriate missions five days later.

The traditional airlift of reinforcement aircrews from the North American Continent to Europe was an important element of the exercise. During the airlift, norms were developed and aircrew long distance flight training was conducted.

During the active phase of the exercise, 14 B-52 strategic bombers, which carried out missions for familiarization with the Theater of Operations and conducted strikes against targets at a great depth, were flown from the U.S. to Europe for the first time in recent years.

As a rule, individual aircrews and small groups of aircraft were used while working out missions for attaining air superiority and air support of ground forces and isolating the area of combat operations and their experience was summarized for squadrons, wings, and formations. Many issues were worked out in air simulators with a critique of errors and correction of them during the course of the exercise.

In spite of poor weather conditions, approximately 3,000 combat sorties of various types of aircraft were carried out during the exercise which speaks of the scale and significance which the NATO Command assigns to Joint Air Forces training.

Presence of Nuclear Weapons at U.S. Puerto Rican Bases Noted

*18011020c Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
24 Sep 89 First Edition p 3*

[Unattributed Article: "The Pentagon's Antilles Outpost"]

[Text] "It was reported in the press that hurricane Hugo recently inflicted serious damage to the Pentagon's bases on the Island of Puerto Rico. I would like to know just what the bases are and how they turned out to be there." P. Sveshnikov, Serpukhov.

"The Island of Puerto Rico is an important strategic outpost of our naval forces in the Caribbean Sea," American Admiral E. Hodges stated in an interview with the local newspaper EL MUNDO. And he had significant grounds for [saying] this. According to press information, there are more than 30,000 American servicemen permanently stationed on the island seized by the United States from Spain at the end of the last century and 17 years ago announced as "freely being annexed to U.S. territory."

In the plans of the American command, Puerto Rico is assigned the role as one of the U.S. 2nd Fleet's most important bases. Such facilities as Fort Mascaro, Fort Brood, and certain others are considered as some of the most technically equipped in the Caribbean Basin. And there are one and a half dozen bases and other military facilities located on the island altogether including nuclear weapons storage areas and ranges for testing new types of weapons.

The Roosevelt Roads complex near the city of Fajardo on the eastern coast of the island is assigned a special

place among U.S. Naval Bases on Puerto Rico. The complex includes three deep-water ports where the largest ships can enter including aircraft carriers and also an airfield for military transport aircraft. It also has a special take-off and landing strip for fighter interceptors and reconnaissance aircraft which carry out flights over neighboring countries and intrude into Cuban airspace.

Furthermore, the U.S. Navy owns almost three quarters of the territory of the nearby islands of Vieques and Culebra. Air and space communications, and reconnaissance and intercept facilities are located here. The coasts of these islands are used for missile training exercises from the sea, bombing from the air, and to work out amphibious assault operations. In 1982, it was precisely here that American military maneuvers "Amberdine Amber" were conducted which were the prelude for the invasion of Grenada.

At the Pentagon, Puerto Rico is also viewed as an important trans-shipment base at the intersection of the region's sea and air routes. According to the assessments of Western military experts, in the event of a "conventional armed conflict" in Europe, no less than 50 percent of the activity for supplying NATO countries with equipment, weapons, and munitions will take place precisely through the Caribbean Basin. Therefore, participation in naval exercises in the area of the Antilles Islands is viewed within the headquarters of the North Atlantic Bloc as an essential element of operational-tactical training.

At the present time we are observing activation of the naval forces of the U.S. and a number of Latin American countries in this area which are participating in "Unidas" maneuvers, protection from "external aggression" in the Caribbean Basin. The American command also assigns the Puerto Rican National Guard, which numbers 12,000 men, to regional defense. It has a military air base and powerful radar sites at its disposal which control the approaches to the so-called "Guantanamo Sector"—the American military base on Cuban territory.

Deployment of nuclear weapons on the island by the Pentagon and access to the anchorage of San Juan and other ports by U.S. military ships with nuclear weapons on board causes serious concern among Latin American society. The Pentagon's attempt to not only maintain Puerto Rico as its outpost in the Antilles Islands area but to also transform it into one of the centers of its rapid deployment force in Central America is meeting increasing condemnation.

POW Returns Home from Kabul

90UM0007A Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
29 Sep 89 First Edition p 3

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Lt Col V. Astafyev: "A Return Home—Private B. Khakimov Held Prisoner for 9 Years; Returns to Native Land"]

[Text] On 28 September the Tashkent airport was operating as it does normally. A contrast was offered by a small group of people holding flowers in their hands and exhibiting unusual excitement.

"We were told that today our brother Bakhretidin was to return from Kabul," said Sharif Khakimov. "He was held prisoner for nine years. We knew nothing about his fate. All we received was a piece of news stating that he died a heroic death while carrying out his internationalist duty."

It occurred on 7 September 1980. Our communication troops made a fix on a strange radio transmitter operating on the western edge of Herat, in the area of the populated point, Saynai [transliteration]. A party of motorized riflemen consisting of seven men was dispatched to locate it. Private Bakhretidin Khakimov was one of them. When the men arrived at the center of the populated point, they ran into dushman fire. Privates Khakimov and Dremov were hit by enemy bullets.

Participants Warrant Officer Khandyborenko and Privates Zhuk, Mikmer and Buynyy were to say later: "Khakimov was probably first wounded in the abdomen. He attempted to crawl through the square over to us, but a grenade suddenly came flying out of a window and exploded close to him."

The heavy fire put down by the dushmans did not permit the men to retrieve the bodies of their comrades. The band was chased out of Saynai on the following day. The motorized riflemen found Dremov's rock-covered body in an irrigation ditch. Khakimov was not to be found. Further efforts were also fruitless. The incident was reported to the Siabskiy Rayon Military Commissariat of Samarkand, where Khakimov had been drafted, and to his family.

However, a mother's instincts are not to be fooled. Istat-apa did not believe that her son was dead. All those years she waited, believing that her Bakhretidin would return. She appealed to Moscow, requesting that search efforts be made. She treasured his letters, in which he said that he had acquired many new friends and that he definitely would invite them to be his guests in Samarkand after discharge into the reserve.

For nine long years nothing was heard about Khakimov. During this entire time the whereabouts of the soldier were investigated by the central apparatus of the USSR KGB and the Special Section for the Turkestan Military District working closely with the MGB of the Republic of Afghanistan. Suddenly, in the early part of this month, another armed formation, headed by Katib Aman-shakh, came over to the side of the people. They brought with them a prisoner who insisted that his name was Dzavid, which translates as "resurrected." That was the name given him by those who took him captive after he was seriously wounded. All available information indicated that this was Private Khakimov. This in spite of the fact that the dushmans' treatment, involving prolonged exposure to drugs, physical and moral degradation, are such that a person loses his identity.

The aircraft finally landed in Tashkent. The journalists assembled at the airport expected to see a touching scene of relatives meeting after a long absence. However, no matter how closely the brothers, sisters, and a classmate of Bakhretidin looked, they could not recognize in the emaciated figure standing before them the 30-year old person for whom they had waited so many years. His mother would have been there, but a serious illness kept Istat-apa away. The father, Sharaf-aka, died 11 years ago. It is possible that the story will have a happy ending, after Khakimov is cured in a hospital.

That is what happened to one person. It is a difficult and bitter case, and not all the facts are yet known. Everyone is aware of the efforts being made by our government and the public, including Nadezhda, the people's committee for saving Soviet military personnel in Afghanistan, to determine the fate of each soldier listed as missing in action. This work demands ever new efforts.

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